

NEWSLETTER



President's Message

Your WTS Central Florida Chapter had a meaningful and impactful third quarter, made possible by the continued dedication of our leadership, members, sponsors, and supporters.

This quarter, the chapter deepened its commitment to community outreach through our Back-to-School Supply Drive, culminating in a Pack-a-Bag event that provided backpacks and school supplies to local students in need. Thank you to everyone who donated time, supplies, and energy to support students as they prepared for the new school year.

We also proudly celebrated a major milestone with our 30th Anniversary "Thirty, Visionary, and Thriving" panel, where regional transportation leaders reflected on how far Central Florida has come over the past three decades and shared insights on the future of our industry. The event honored our chapter's legacy while inspiring continued progress and leadership.

Rounding out the quarter, our Chips for Ships Fundraiser was a tremendous success, raising over \$2,000 in support of trade school scholarships. These funds will directly benefit students pursuing skilled trades, helping expand access to education and workforce opportunities across our region.

We are grateful to our chapter leaders, members, sponsors, and partners for their continued support and engagement. Together, we are advancing women in transportation while making a lasting impact in our community.

Warm regards,

Sarah Larsen

Sarah Larsen
2025 President, WTS Central Florida



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Chips for 'Ships: Charity Poker Tournament 2025



Chips for 'Ships: A Night That Made an Impact

In August 2025, WTS Central Florida hosted another successful Chips for 'Ships Fundraising Poker Tournament.

Congratulations to our poker champion, Kenza Sersouri, PE, and thank you to Lizette Martinez, PE, and her team for leading the event. Thanks to the strong support of our community, **we raised over \$2,000, with all proceeds going toward trade school scholarships!**

Thank you to everyone who participated and helped make this event a winning night for future skilled professionals.

Recent Activities

Back-to-School Pack-a-Bag: Giving Back to Our Community

In August 2025, in honor of the chapter's 30th anniversary, WTS Central Florida hosted the Thirty, Visionary, and Thriving event, a special program reflecting on how far Central Florida's transportation landscape has come and where it is headed next.

The event featured insightful perspectives from Dalita Singh of Central Florida Expressway Authority, Allison McCuddy of Florida Department of Transportation, and Taylor Laurent, PE, AICP of MetroPlan Orlando, alongside Past President Amy Windom. Panelists shared reflections on the region's growth over the past 30 years and offered a forward-looking vision for the future of transportation in Central Florida.

Special thanks to Kenza Sersouri, PE, Lilli Smith, PE, Bailey Hitt, and KEITH for their leadership and dedication in bringing this meaningful anniversary program to life.



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Thirty and Thriving Anniversary Panel



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Book Club Highlights: Learning Together

IWTS Central Florida kicked off its first 2025 Book Club with a thoughtful discussion of *Talking to Strangers* by Malcolm Gladwell. The conversation encouraged members to grow both personally and professionally through meaningful dialogue.

Thank you to Membership Chairs Grace Taussig, PE, and Felipe Andres Monsalve, PE, MBA, PMP, and the Membership Committee for organizing an engaging and accessible event. We look forward to continuing the conversation at future meetups.



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We would love to have you join us! To start your membership with WTS, go to our website using the QR code or URL below.

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<https://www.wtsinternational.org/chapters/central-florida>



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