



Network Notes

The Newsletter of WID National

Summer 2010

Women In Defense, A National Security Organization
2111 Wilson Blvd., Suite 400 • Arlington, VA 22201 • <http://wid.ndia.org>

Chapters Foster Future National Security Professionals

Our national security workforce is the focus of many WID chapter programs.

At the **Picatinny Chapter** in northwest New Jersey, members help younger children imagine careers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) by hosting Bring Your Child to Work Day. The large number of scientists and engineers employed at Picatinny Arsenal make it a productive destination. Chapter president is **Wendy Franciscovich, U.S. Army**.

The people who inspire students to pursue defense-related careers are the focus of the **Greater Frederick (Md.) Chapter's** awards program. "Through the Reach For the Stars Award, we honor inspirational people who demonstrate the chapter's vision of motivating young people to pursue, excel in, and seek careers in math and science and technical and scientific fields," said president **Karen Dickman, General Dynamics Information Technology**. The spring award dinner featured BG Loree K. Sutton, M.D., Director, DoD Center for Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury as speaker.

Meanwhile, other chapters help to ease the financial burden of education. To fund scholarships, several chapters hosted golf outings this year—the **Michigan Chapter**, the **Iowa/Illinois Chapter**, and the **Picatinny Chapter**. Chapter presidents are **Nancy Loerch, Archetype Joint LLC**, **Dianne Wheeler, U.S. Army**, and **Wendy Franciscovich, U.S. Army**, respectively.

In August, the **New England Shoreline Chapter** will host **HORIZONS Scholarship Night** aboard the Schooner Argia, sailing from Mystic, Conn., according to board member **Elaine DeCiutiis**. President is **Annette Seling**. Both are with **General Dynamics Electric Boat**.

The **Chesapeake Bay Chapter**, Southern Maryland, hosted its first 5K Run/1.5K Walk to raise scholarship funds. "We are proud to say we raised close to \$2,700 in this one event," according to treasurer **Chris Chase, Booz Allen Hamilton**. President is **Holly Snyder, Booz Allen Hamilton**.

Anniversary Celebration, Conference Offer Exciting Speakers, Elegant Location

Members of Women In Defense and others from the defense community will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the organization at its October 5 Annual Dinner. Read more about the anniversary on page two.

Timely topics and distinguished speakers make the 2010 WID National Fall Conference an important place to be October 6. To take advantage of cost-savings, register before September 17. Details are at <http://wid.ndia.org/events/1WID>.

If you have never visited the Mayflower Hotel, this is the perfect time to experience what Harry Truman once described as "Washington's second best address."

One chapter is making sure that engineering-related tools are available. The **Tennessee Valley Chapter** donated funds to the Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering Department of the University of Alabama in Huntsville to cover the cost of materials for the construction of four classroom tools being designed and constructed for use in middle school and high school classrooms. Chapter president is **Cristina Hinkle, CohesionForce, Inc.**

At least two chapters offer mentoring programs to connect those new in their careers with more experienced professionals. The **Tennessee Valley Chapter's** program demonstrates that professional opportunities exist for women in the region and encourages women to "come, stay, and grow," according to president **Cristina Hinkle**. The **Capital Chapter** is offering an introductory information session on mentoring, including how to start and maintain a productive mentoring relationship. Chapter president is **Linda McKnight, KBR**.

Save the Date

Sep. 8— The Effect of In-Sourcing/Out-Sourcing on Small Businesses Executive Breakfast with the Association For Enterprise Integration (<http://wid.ndia.org/events/OWI6>)
Oct. 5, 2010—WID National Annual Dinner (<http://wid.ndia.org/events/1WID>)
Oct. 6, 2010—WID National Fall Conference (<http://wid.ndia.org/events/1WID>)
Dec. 19, 2010—WID 25th Anniversary



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WID Celebrates Its 25th Anniversary

This year WID marks 25 years since its founding as an official organization. Women In Defense was incorporated as a non-profit organization in the District of Columbia on Dec. 19, 1985. Its roots go back to 1979 when seven women saw the need for a networking group. Later, WID became an affiliate of the National Defense Industrial Association. Today WID has more than 2,700 members.

A special celebration is planned for the October 5 Annual Dinner. To register for the dinner (which is sold separately from the Fall Conference), visit <http://wid.ndia.org/events/1WID>.

A variety of activities will mark this important year. According to WID National Vice President **Tricia Ward, Booz Allen Hamilton**, chapter leaders are recording their history. "When we take the time to find out where we came from and to record it, we understand our purpose better, and we're better equipped to meet our goals," said Tricia.

To celebrate the national anniversary and the fifth anniversary of the **Rocky Mountain Chapter** and to benefit its STEM scholarship program, members enjoyed a wine and chocolate tasting and silent auction at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center. "When we planned our program year, we set some goals around the WID 25th anniversary," said president **Laurie Carroll, Schafer Corp.**

Chapters Address Community Needs, Member Needs

San Diego, Calif., is home to hundreds of small businesses. The WID chapter hosted a breakfast at the August Navy Gold Coast Conference with speaker Faye Esaias, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command Small Business Associate Director on contracting opportunities for women-owned small businesses. Earlier this year, the chapter hosted a small business innovation research workshop. **San Diego Chapter** president is **Karen Conti, Lockheed Martin Corp.**

Base Realignment and Closure has affected **Mid-Atlantic Chapter** members. As a result, the chapter, founded in 2004 as the Monmouth Chapter, changed its name and boundaries to include the Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., area with the approval of the national headquarters. **Tamera Rush, SRC, Inc.**, heads efforts to engage

Aberdeen professionals. Chapter president is **Sandra Coryell, U.S. Army.**

Fostering dialogue and knowledge exchange is at the heart of the **Palmetto Chapter's** activities. At its networking luncheon this spring, a wide array of small business owners showcased their expertise and services. At its Women Owner Small Business Panel, five Charleston-based women owners of defense companies shared their insights. A July panel luncheon, "Women of SPAWAR," aligned with the Charleston Defense Contractors Association quarterly Small Business Symposium. President is **Ellen Pfeiffer, Palmetto IT Solutions.**

The **Upstate New York Chapter** hosted its 2nd Annual "Walk a Mile in Their Boots" Charitable Golf Tournament. A portion of the proceeds will be donated for scholarships, transportation, and other expenses in support of local military families. **Sue Werner, SRCTec**, is chapter president.

Informative, Inspiring Speakers Headline Chapter Events

WID members throughout the nation have heard from many distinguished leaders in the past few months. Following is an overview.

-Greater Hampton Roads (Virginia): Commander Diane W. Durham discussed her experience in Haiti earthquake relief. President: **Glenda Blum, B&B Consulting.**

-Belvoir (Northern Virginia): MG Steven W. Smith, Director, U.S. Army Cyberspace Task Force, addressed cyber security. President: **Katherine Hollis, Institute for Defense Analysis.**

-Tennessee Valley (Alabama): Mr. Kevin Moore, Information Technology Division, U.S. Army Materiel Command, spoke at the member appreciation reception. President: **Cristina Hinkle, CohesionForce, Inc.**

-Michigan: September Professional Development session, "Diversity," to be presented by Dr. Grace M. Bochenek, Director, TARDEC. President: **Nancy Loerch, Archetype Joint LLC.**

-Central Florida: Members took part in the Training and Simulation Industry Symposium, conducted by NDIA affiliate National Training and Simulation Association. President: **Debbie Berry, Lockheed Martin.**



WID's 2,500th Member

Faith J. Yazzie has the distinction of being the 2,500th member of Women In Defense. Ms. Yazzie works at the Joint Manufacturing & Technology Center, Moline, Ill.

A Note from the Staff Director

From my collection of recent women's "firsts:"

-Letitia A. Long was appointed director of the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency, the first woman to head this U.S. intelligence agency.

- For the first time in the history of the U.S. Military Academy (West Point), the school's two top awards were earned by female cadets—the number one overall cadet and the valedictorian—Liz Betterbed and Alex Rosenberg.

-In late July, four women received the annual Sailor of the Year awards from the U.S. Navy. It was the first time all four recipients were women. The women were meritoriously advanced to Chief Petty Officer during a ceremony at the Navy Memorial, Washington, D.C. Details: http://www.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story_id=54845. [Thanks to Jane Walter and colleagues at Booz Allen Hamilton for the tip.]

-And speaking of history: Establishing a museum to honor the lives of women is the goal of the National Women's History Museum. Museum leaders have invited WID members to join them at a September 21 Washington, D.C. gala featuring Meryl Streep. Learn more about tickets and the event at www.nwhm.org. WID is a member of the NWHM Coalition.

--Jane Patrick Casey

Do you have colleagues in Minnesota

who would benefit from networking and professional development? Refer them to **Lori Lindholm, Lockheed Martin Corp.**, who is establishing a WID chapter. E-mail to lori.a.lindholm@lmco.com.

President's Message

Dear WID Members:

As I reflect on the state of today's defense professional, one word comes to mind ... **challenges**. With the continuing war efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the state of the economy both domestically and globally, we are all challenged to do more with less. Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates has called for cuts of thousands of jobs including a substantial number of private contractors as well as government personnel to manage defense spending. Dr. Ashton Carter, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology & Logistics, is leading an initiative with a goal of increasing warfighting capabilities by three percent without a proportional increase to budgets. And let's not forget the ongoing debate of in-sourcing or out-sourcing and its potential impact to the budget.

Regardless of your views on these activities, I'm sure you will agree they present **challenges** for all of us.

In these **challenging** times, I am pleased to be a part of Women In Defense. WID membership provides opportunities to interact with colleagues in industry and government as we work together to ensure the "best" for our warfighters and provide support for our national security. I encourage you to engage in your local chapter, be involved, mentor, educate, continue your own professional development, and support others!

I hope you can join us for the October 5, Annual Dinner and the October 6, 2010 WID National Fall Conference. We have much to celebrate, thanks to all of you! And it will be a great opportunity to address the ongoing **challenges**.

Margaret A. DiVirgilio