



Tennessee Valley Chapter Women in Defense (WID-TVC) Winter 2015 Newsletter

From Chapter President - Kathy Broad



It's cold outside! We have had a great year and I want to thank each of you for your membership in the TVC chapter and for supporting past chapter events and programs. I'd also like to provide you with an update of our activities since October 2014, share with you our plans for the rest of this year, and offer each of you the opportunity to get involved.

So far this year, our Chapter activities have included:

- October 28, 2014 - WID sponsored a table at the Condoleezza Rice Girls Inc. fundraiser event – it was awesome! She was an incredible speaker and great motivator for these young girls and all of us!
- November 13-14, 2014 - WEDC/WID Leadership Conference, The Westin – incredible!
- January 27, 2015 – WID Annual Membership breakfast at the Chamber of Commerce – sorry you missed it!
- February 23, 2015 – NDIA Annual Membership Dinner at the Davidson Center

Your WID Chapter has several events planned for this year to include:

- March 11, 2015 - WID National Conference being held at Lockheed Martin, Crystal City, VA <http://wid.ndia.org/news/Pages/5WID.aspx>
- March 18, 2015, WID-TVC Mentoring Series with speaker Jesse Barber, being held at Raytheon, 11:30 to 1:00, To Register for this event: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/women-in-defense-2015-mentoring-series-phases-for-engagement-tickets-15994430773>
- WID-TVC scholarships for 2015 will be presented in the Spring
- WBCNA Woman Owned Small Business Government Contracting Event – April 7
- Program luncheons
- Mentorship meetings
- Member Receptions (July and Dec/January)
- STEMi activities



- Space & Missile Defense Symposium (August 2015) - WID Booth
- Nominations for WID-TVC Board of Directors – are you interested? Please email me at keb@qtecinc.com !

We are well into 2015 and we want you to get involved! Please call me with any ideas you have for our Chapter and we look forward to seeing and hearing from all of you throughout the year!

Our thanks go out to all involved in making these programs such a high-value benefit for our membership. Keep an eye out for the topics that will benefit you and join your fellow Members for a season of networking and learning from fellow Chapter Members and industry-recognized experts. So again, get involved and bring along anyone else you know, new to the industry or seasoned veteran, and see what the Tennessee Valley Chapter can do for you - you will be glad you did! Together we can continue to make the WID-TVC a great resource for all our Members. Again, I thank you for the opportunity to lead the way.

From Chapter Vice-President - Mary Bissell

An Incredible Benefit of WID Membership – Networking!



Attending WID events is a proven venue for networking with other professionals who share careers in the defense industry. After all, networking is an opportunity to link together with people whom you trust and have an authentic relationship. Networking is a two way street however, so you have to be willing to help others as well. So, how can you use your WID membership to network effectively?

Attend as many events as possible AND have networking plan for each venue. Bring your business cards and a notebook so you can take notes and capture the most important points with each introduction. Remember that your networking goals should match the event. If you are attending one of our “Meet – N – Greet” events, your goal should be to meet as many people as possible with varied backgrounds. If you are attending a luncheon with a guest speaker, approach those events with a professional growth goal. After the event, schedule some time to share notes with other attendees and build a professional bond.

Hold volunteer, committee or Board of Director positions in WID. My experience as the Vice President of the Tennessee Valley Chapter has opened many doors and opportunities that I would otherwise not have been afforded. As a Board Member, I have many opportunities to attend meetings where I am introduced to professionals in other organizations. Please consider volunteering when asked, as it’s a very rewarding experience.

Be known as a subject matter expert or powerful resource for others. You will become the “go to” person and will be called upon to offer your suggestions and ideas to other professionals.

Understand why you are special and what an introduction to YOU means! Be ready to articulate what you do and why you are such a valuable resource.



Do not be afraid to ask for help! Let your professional friends know what you need. Are you looking for a contact, a referral, or assistance with your resume or an interview...Speak up!

Follow up quickly after an introduction. Any delay can appear as a lack of interest. Call, email, text, etc... just don't delay!

And most importantly... model your networking strategies after others who are successful at networking. Men are not shy about using their contacts, professional friends, etc... for help when they need it. We women should be just as forthright in asking for help!!

I am looking forward to seeing you at the next WID event and talking to you! How can I help you? How can you help me? It's just a question away!

From Chapter Program Director - Corby Dellarocco

WID-TVC Membership Reception 27 Jan 2015

Women In Defense, Tennessee Valley Chapter hosted a membership breakfast on January 27, 2015 at the Chamber of Commerce of Huntsville/Madison County. The purpose of this event was to not only to appreciate our WID members but also to roll out the WID-TVC 2015 Scholarship Program, provide information on upcoming WID-TVC mentorship activities and updates on future program events. The breakfast was well attended by our WID members that represent all areas of defense within our community.

From Chapter Awards/Scholarship Director – Rokichia Haywood



In 2014, Women In Defense-Tennessee Valley Chapter (WID-TVC) set out on a new adventure. WID-TVC created a Scholarship Program to provide scholarships to deserving women in our local communities, universities, and in the workforce, who are pursuing degrees in the fields of study such as security studies, military history, government relations, engineering, computer science, cyber security, physics, mathematics, business (as it relates to national security or defense), law (as it relates to national security or defense), international relations, political science, and economics.

We set a goal of raising \$3,500.00 for our first year. This goal would allow us to provide 3 scholarships; 1) \$1,500.00 for Undergrad, 2) \$1,500.00 for Graduate, and 3) \$500.00 toward Professional Development. We are pleased to state that we met our goal with the generous donations from industry leaders in our area such as Cortina Consulting Group, LLC, Davidson Technologies, Inc., QTEC, Inc., Sigmatech, Inc., and Troy 7, Inc. Our thanks go out to all of the industry partners who have made our pilot year a huge success! Together we can continue to provide the financial resources needed to develop strong, educated, and dedicated people who will become future company and defense leaders who will in turn ensure a safer and sustainable world.

We are encouraging women to apply for the scholarship. Completed applications, essays, recommendations and transcripts must be received no later than March 31, 2015. Send



application packages to: WID-TVC c/o Rokichia Haywood, 4901-C Corporate Drive, Huntsville, Alabama 35805.

WID will be present our scholarships at the NDIA Membership Dinner being held in the Spring.

For more information please visit our web-site at <http://wid-tvc.org/awards-scholarships/>.

From Chapter Mentoring Director - Judy Hardin



Its 2015 and we are moving with a blast as Women in Defense, Tennessee Valley Chapter rolls out mentoring events for the year. In spite of the delays that caused some of our activities in 2014 to be cancelled, we have phases of mentoring engagements planned for the coming months of March, June and August.

Whether you are a professional working in industry, government, non-profit or transitioning into another career, our program will help you increase your bandwidth as you develop key essentials needed for leadership, or just enhancing your professional skills.

The program sessions led by senior leaders will help you develop essential tools that redefine your thinking when engaging into uncharted territories in government and industry while also identifying right sizing skills to effectively increase your networks.

The goal is to help strengthen the essentials you seek during your mentoring phases that produce positive solutions for your career. For more information on how to become involved in the program, contact Judy Hardin at judy_c_hardin@raytheon.com

From the Communications Director - Leigh Christian



We want to ensure that we are connecting to our members, so please keep your profile updated with current email and phone number.

CURRENT MEMBERS – Please update your Membership Information on the NDIA/WID **Membership Profile** at <https://www.ndia.org/pages/login.aspx>.

To find the latest information on your WID-TVC Chapter, you can go to the Women in Defense Tennessee Valley Chapter **Website** (<http://wid-tvc.org/>) for information regarding events, mentoring, photos from events, scholarship information, and so much more.



We also have a **Linked In** Page – Women in Defense – Tennessee Valley Chapter where we post updates for our group and others that we support. You can select how often you receive notices i.e., when they are posted, once a day, or weekly. Go to the settings tab next to the MEMBER button on the page and you will see the Contact Settings and select notification schedule.

The url

is: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=1828855&mostPopular=&trk=tyah&trkInfo=idx%3A1-1-1%2CtarId%3A1424708809344%2Ctas%3Awomen-in-defense-tenness>

Finally, we also have a **Facebook** page Women in Defense – Tennessee Valley Chapter <https://www.facebook.com/groups/103582189691425/>

If you are not receiving information or would like more information, please contact Leigh Christian [256-509-1580](tel:256-509-1580) or email leigh.christian@aetossystems.com

From STEMi Director - Debbie Fraley



The Tennessee Valley Chapter of Women in Defense is continuing our long standing efforts to work with local schools to provide STEM tools to science teachers for interactive use in their classrooms and to the Sci-Quest Hands-On Science Center. We work with the Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department of the University of Alabama in Huntsville to have these tools designed and built by engineering student teams and then donated to the local schools or Sci-Quest. The ability of the students to see scientific and engineering principles demonstrated by tools they can directly interact with has proven to increase student interest in pursuing higher education and careers in the technical disciplines.

WID TVC is currently funding the design and development of three STEM tools. The first is a Marble Roller Coaster System for Mt Carmel Elementary School that demonstrates the principles of motion and kinetic and potential energy. The roller coaster system is stationed outside in the school's courtyard that is utilized as an outdoor classroom and consists of three separate tracks that present different obstacles that the marbles will encounter on their race to the end. It is designed for the students to be able to race three marbles simultaneously and to withstand seasonal weather patterns. Integral lift mechanisms that the students can engage raise the marbles to the tops of the tracks. This project is in the third and final semester of work and will be completed in place and presented to the school in the April-May timeframe.

The second tool is a Mobile Experiment Cart that was specifically requested by Sci-Quest. This cart will be deployed on the floor of the museum at various locations and provide space for students to participate in a wide variety of science experiments. There will be storage for items used in experiments, safety devices, and explanatory materials, along with space to actually



perform the experiments, and seating for student participants. This project is in its second and final semester of work and will be delivered to Sci-Quest in the April-May timeframe.

The third tool is an exhibit that will promote a better understanding of dyslexia for Greengate School, that specializes in educating students that struggle with dyslexia. The exhibit will consist of two models of the human brain that are engaged in reading, with one that demonstrates the active parts of the brain of a dyslexic student and the other model will show the active parts of the brain after treatment/specialized teaching has occurred. This project is in its first semester of development and will continue into a second semester later this year for delivery to the school prior to the end of CY2015.

Any questions on WID TVC STEM efforts can be directed to our STEM Director, Debbie Fraley, at dfraley@quantum-intl.com.

Special Upcoming Event

The Association (formerly the Huntsville Association of Technical Societies – HATS) is hosting the annual Professional of the Year Banquet on **June 18** at the Westin. Last year, our own WID-TVC Board member, Debbie Fraley, won the prestigious Moquin Award and the WID-TVC was nominated for the Society of the Year. What an honor! If you would like to **nominate** a WID member for the Professional of the Year or if you participate in another organization and would like more information, please contact Leigh Christian at leigh.christian@aetosystems.com.

Photo Gallery

Please visit our [Photo Gallery on the WID-TVC Website](#)

Please send Pictures from Events