



March 2011

www.ndia-tvc.org/wid-tvc

First Quarter Newsletter #1

WID TVC President's Corner

Our Chapter

Cristina Hinkle WID-TVC President 2009-2011



2011 will be another great year for our WID chapter. Our programs events, mentorship and STEMi program are going strong. This Fall, our VP Patty Popour, will set the tone for our chapter for the next 2 years as she takes over as President in October and Chairs our bi-annual WID TVC Conference here in Huntsville. More news about this big event will be coming very soon. Our numbers are growing each month. We currently have more than 285 members here in the Tennessee Valley. Government employees get a free 3 year membership, so be sure to tell your colleagues. If you want to be involved as a volunteer, please let us know. We need more good people engaged with all our activities. If you have ideas for new activities, please let us know that too. We are here to serve you, our membership!

Upcoming Events 2011

See website for detail www.ndia-tvc.org/wid-tvc

March 3:

WID-TVC and NDIA-TVC Present

Dr. Myra S. Gray

Deputy G-3/5, Strategy and Concepts (G5)
HQ, Army Materiel Command (AMC)
7:30 – 9:00 Registration Opens at 7:00

March 21:

Mentorship Luncheon

11:30-1:00

Location: Patriot Room, SAIC
Speaker: Irma Tudor

WID-TVC STEMi

STEMi MISSION: The Tennessee Valley Chapter (TVC) of Women in Defense (WID) is taking an active role in supporting educational needs for the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Initiative (STEMi). This initiative encourages young people to pursue careers in national defense and national security, eventually replacing our aging workforce. WID TVC support is focused on securing financial backing from similar professional organizations, defense contractors, and local community organizations. These donations will fund the creation of STEM educational tools for use in middle school and high school classrooms in the Tennessee Valley area.

SPRING SEMESTER 2011 UPDATE: Two new classroom tools have been under design, development, and fabrication for the 7th and 8th grade science classes at Providence Middle School by student teams in the engineering design class of Dr. Christina Carmen in the Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering Department at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH). Two student design teams began working diligently during Fall semester 2010 to go through the full System Engineering process for each tool. This process includes four formal reviews with sponsors in attendance. These include a System Requirements Review, Preliminary Design Review, Critical Design Review, and Product Readiness Review. In order to produce top quality products, the design and development process has been extended from the goal of total completion within one semester. The first two reviews were completed during Fall semester and the last two reviews will be completed during Spring semester.

The tools that will be built utilizing a \$1,300 donation from WID TVC (see photo) include the following:

- An earthquake simulator that will allow the students to participate in creating movements in a model environment. This will demonstrate plate tectonics, impart a basic understanding of the Richter scale, and display the improvements in building science throughout the years, which has created structures more likely to survive an earthquake.
- A pulley system of simple machines that will allow the students to participate in creating block and tackle assemblies. With this tool, they will be able to learn to change the direction of an applied force, transmit rotational motion, or realize a mechanical advantage in either a linear or rotational system of motion.

A formal presentation of the completed WID STEMi tools will be made to the principal, teachers and students at Providence Middle School during the month of April.



Deborah Fraley, WID TVC STEMi Director, presents a check to Dr. Robert A. Frederick, Jr., Interim Chair, Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at UAH. The students shown are part of the two design teams designing and building the classroom tools. At the end of the line stands Dr. Christina Carmen who instructs the design class where our two projects are being developed.

WID-TVC Mentorship

WID-TVC has started a dynamic Mentor Protégé Program that will provide professional development and networking opportunities in support of Women in Defense. The program is being designed in a way that recognizes and respects the needs, expectations, and life-demands of professional women and those just starting their careers.

The WID-TVC chapter's *Mentor-Protégé Program* is nearly half way through its first year. A social was held to celebrate the milestone and bring the mentor-protégé pairs back as a cohort to network and reconnect. Members of the chapter's Mentorship Committee and Board of Directors were present to meet the cohort and hear feedback on the program. Discussions included ways to promote WID in the community and in particular to young women and men preparing to enter the workforce.

Save The Date!

The next Mentorship Program Luncheon will be held on Monday, March 21st from 11:30-1:00 at SAIC, Patriot Room.

Member Profiles

Cristina Hinkle, WID TVC President



Cristina H. Hinkle is the WID TVC President and the Chief Business Development Officer for CohesionForce, Inc. She is originally from the Tennessee Valley, but returned in 2003 from DC. Her most recent positions in Huntsville were with ManTech Space Systems, and Techni-Core Engineering. In DC, Cristina worked with the Government Relations division of the American Dietetic Association and on the Senate Armed Services Committee. Prior to that, she completed her BA and MA in Political Science at Georgia Southern University. Cristina enjoys playing volleyball, tennis and golf, reading/watching sci-fi, and nothing more than spending time with her daughter, Cassidy.

Edwina Musante, WID TVC Secretary



Edwina Musante is the WID TVC Secretary and she is the Director of Huntsville Operations for Irving Burton Associates, a software development and project management firm, headquartered in Herndon, Virginia. She is originally from Birmingham, but moved to Huntsville six years ago from the Washington D.C. area. Her previous position in Huntsville was with Teledyne Brown Engineering. She completed her B.S. in Electrical Engineering at University of Alabama at Birmingham. Edwina enjoys spending her free time with her family at Smith Lake.

Kathryn E. Broad, WID TVC Treasurer



Kathryn E. Broad is the WID TVC Treasurer. She is the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer for QTEC, Inc., a Woman-Owned Small Business. Ms. Broad (Kathy) was born in Mississippi and grew up in many places across the world - her father being in the Air Force. She and her family moved to Huntsville in 1966. She is a business administration professional with over 32 years of experience in the military and civil space domains. Kathy enjoys gardening, music, and travel. She is the mother of two (daughters) and the grandmother of three.