



2019, Q3

The Mid-Atlantic Megawatt



Interested in joining
our WiNUP chapter?

Click [here](#) to download the membership application and send it to Maria Pascual at Maria.Pascual@pjm.com. You can also email any of the chapter board members for additional information.

Follow us!  



WiNUP's Objectives

- Opportunities for professional development of members
- Networking and mentoring among members
- Recognition and visibility for members and business partners

WiNUP's Mission

Provide a link for developing and recognizing professionals involved with utility business trends, issues, products, and services.

Mid-Atlantic Chapter Mission

Promote education, networking, and leadership opportunities for our members as well as support the development and continuation of STEM programs for young women.

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Message from the Chair

WiNUP Mid-Atlantic Members,

As always, thank you to all of the volunteers that have organized and participated in our numerous events over the course of Q1, Q2, and Q3. During Q3, our chapter engaged in the following events: Q3 WiNUP Mid-Atlantic Chapter Business Meeting, Site Visit to Philadelphia Gas Works, Networking for Introverts Session, Laurel House donation event and Smoothie Bar for current and prospective members, STEM activities with the Evoluer House at Pierce College, and Evoluer House Site Visit to CES!

We will continue the momentum into Q4 with the PA Women's Conference in Philadelphia, the WiNUP International Conference held in Denver, Designer Bag Bingo Fundraiser, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and the Q4 Business Meeting. As always, we need volunteers to help make these events successful so please consider volunteering to help organize an event! I hope to see many of you at these events!

On a separate note, I would like to congratulate the newly elected board members and committee chairs!

I know next year will be great another great one!

Lauren Strella Wahba, 2019 WiNUP Mid-Atlantic Chair



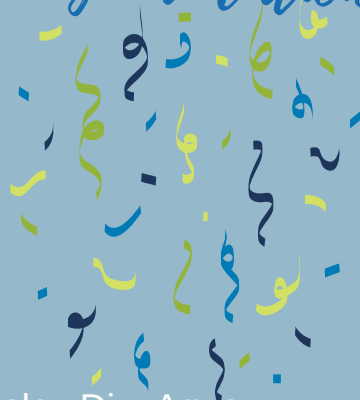
Lauren Strella Wahba,
WiNUP Mid-Atlantic Chair



2020 Board Members and Committee Chairs

- Chair: Nikki Militello, PJM
- Vice Chair: Bhav Keshavamurthy, PJM
- International Board Representative: Janell Fabiano, PJM
- Treasurer: Carla Thew, PJM
- Secretary: Carol Obando-Derstine, PPL
- Charity Committee Chair: Alex Scheirer, PJM
- Fundraising Committee Chair: Shannon Vogel, PJM
- STEM Committee Chair: Lynn Horning, CES
- Newsletter/Social Media Chair: Jaleesa Jackson, PGW
- Professional Development International Committee Member: Lesley Dix, Aqua

Congratulations!



Membership Spotlight

by Maria Pascual

welcome!

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter **welcomes** its new members:

- Maria Baptiste, PJM (Sr. Business Analyst)
- Michelle Farhat, PJM (ARC Engineer)
- Jaleesa Jackson, Philadelphia Gas Works (Enterprise Project Manager)
- Marilyn Jayachandran, PJM (Sr. Engineer)

"WiNUP is an organization for all levels of professionals – not just engineering professionals. I'm hoping to enrich my experience both within and outside of PJM through this professional network to broaden my role as a Sr. Business Analyst working in the power industry". ~ Maria Baptiste

"I recently started working at PJM and was looking for more ways to get involved both at work and in the neighboring communities. After speaking with a few members, WiNUP seemed like a great opportunity to do that while also learning some valuable skills and networking throughout the industry". ~ Michelle Farhat

"I decided to join WiNUP because I knew this would be an opportunity to network with women in the energy business. I believe that as we continue to collaborate, we have the ability to grow in our careers and make positive changes in our corporations as well". ~ Jaleesa Jackson

"I am delighted and honored to be part of WiNUP – Mid-Atlantic Chapter. I look forward to the numerous opportunities to network with other energy industry professionals! I believe that joining WiNUP also provides me with an opportunity to promote science education and STEM careers in girls and women and help develop a more diverse and stronger science community". ~ Marilyn Jayachandran

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter has **64 members** representing:

- Aqua Pennsylvania Inc.
- Customized Energy Solutions
- Philadelphia Gas Works
- PPL Electric Utilities
- Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP
- McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC
- PJM Interconnection, LLC



The chapter has a diverse member community with different skill sets and experiences. Contact your fellow members or chapter board for any inquiries. Questions and suggestions are always welcome!

If you are not yet a member, it is never too late to join WiNUP. Click 'Join!' to access the Membership page and links to join. For additional information on WiNUP, please contact Lauren Strella Wahba, WiNUP Mid-Atlantic Chapter Chair at Lauren.StrellaWahba@pjm.com.

Member Shout Outs!

Congratulations Carol!



WiNUP Mid-Atlantic would like to send a big congratulations to our Secretary, Carol Obando-Derstine. Carol has been recognized by the SkillsUSA Council as the recipient of their "Leadership by Example" Award and will be honored at their Annual Meeting in October.



WiNUP Mid-Atlantic would also like to send a big congratulations to Chapter member, Christina Catalano on her recent nuptials! Christina and Mike said "I do" in September!

Best Wishes to the newly wedded couple!

Do you have a celebration or know a member to recognize? Contact Michele Greening at Michele.Greening@pjm.com to include a chapter "shout out" in our next newsletter.

WiNUP International News

The August 2019 International Board Meeting was focused on review and approval for WiNUP's exciting rebranding efforts. First, a new WiNUP International logo to better reflect the brand and more current design trends is in development.

Second, a refresh on two key WiNUP marketing items is complete. The marketing brochure, flyer and other materials are available on the [WiNUP International website](#), while logged into the members section.

Finally, the Board is very excited to have approved a new membership website, hosted through Club Express. The new website was designed specifically to meet the needs of membership organizations, and will offer:

- A new WiNUP International website
- Online dues payment with reminders
- Interactive event calendars
- The ability to collect donations and payments
- Each chapter its own customizable website
- A live, searchable membership directory
- Social media integration
- Many other features!

Development for the website is already underway, with training coming for designated chapter administrators. Launch is expected in January 2020. If you are interested in website administration for our chapter, please contact Janell Fabiano at Janell.Fabiano@pjm.com.

New & Improved Guidelines Available

The Guideline Ad-Hoc Committee has completed an extensive review, and has announced release of the updated WiNUP Guidelines. Numerous changes to eliminate redundancies and outdated information have been made; and the forms have been created in fillable format to make it easier when applying for grants and awards! Visit the Members section on the WiNUP website to view the new version.

*International
Scoop!*

by Janell Fabiano

Fundraising Update!

By Diane Antonelli

WiNUP Mid-Atlantic will be hosting the Designer Bag Bingo fundraising event on November 15th at the Black Rock Volunteer Fire Company at 260 Green Tree Road, Phoenixville, PA 19460. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. with the games beginning at 7:00 p.m. Please see the flyer below for information on the event and how to purchase tickets!

We are continuing to seek event sponsorship and donations for raffle baskets and door prizes. Donations of all kinds and sizes are welcome! Please contact Diane Antonelli at Diane.Antonelli@pjm.com if you would like to become a sponsor or contribute to the prize or basket donations.

BINGO!



Designer Bag Bingo Event

Date: Friday, Nov. 15
Time: Doors open at 6 p.m.
Bingo begins at 7 p.m.
Location: Black Rock Volunteer Fire Company, Phoenixville, Pa.

Raffles, door prizes and more!
Tickets are \$30.00 in advance, \$35.00 at the door and include 12 rounds of Bingo and one door prize ticket.
BYO beverages with food available for purchase

All proceeds benefit WiNUP Mid-Atlantic Chapter and their work in educating and empowering young women to pursue careers in energy and STEM-related fields.

Contact: Nikki Militello
610-635-3488
Nicole.Militello@pjm.com



For it is far better to give than to receive....

In recognition of Women's Equality Day, on Thursday, August 22, the WiNUP Mid-Atlantic chapter hosted a networking event.



Chapter Members and PJM Stakeholders were invited to share a smoothie and bring a donation for The Laurel House, a domestic violence agency providing supportive and preventative services throughout Montgomery County.

Gift cards and cash donations totaling over \$300; and an overflowing bin of laundry pods, pajamas, and other items off of the Laurel House wish list were collected.

Click to learn more about Women's Equality Day!

VOTE!



Click to learn more about the Laurel House



CES Site Visit

By Lynn Horning

**STEM
ROCKS!**

On July 10th, 2019, approximately a dozen girls from Evoluer House journeyed a few blocks north of Peirce College, and spent the day at Customized Energy Solutions. CES assists clients in managing and staying ahead of the changes in the wholesale and retail electricity and natural gas markets. Established in 1998, CES is headquartered in Center City Philadelphia, and serves clients from the US and around the globe in hosted energy market operations platforms and services.

The Evoluer girls spent the day learning about energy markets, while hearing the career stories from many women who work for an entrepreneurial firm in a technical industry.

*Photos Courtesy of The Evoluer House.



The girls heard the career journey of Harveyetta Stone, Benefits Manager, who continued her education while working full time and ultimately completed an MBA. Kira Byers, In-House Counsel and Manager of Legal Affairs, shared her experiences with practicing law and taking a risk to work in an unfamiliar, technical industry. A lot of laughter was heard, when Michele Kauffman, Business Development Director, played a game with the girls to explain to them the benefits of demand response and energy conservation. As the girls toured the market operation center, they heard first-hand from operators, analysts, dispatchers and sales managers how power grid operates with all types of resources such as wind, solar and battery. And they learned how that energy ultimately is used and sold to the homes where they live. The CES staff enjoyed hosting such a bright and energetic group of young ladies.

Click to learn more about the Evoluer House!



Summer STEM Workshops

By Melissa Pilong

Members of WiNUP Mid-Atlantic, along with the co-chair of the PJM Diversity & Inclusion Council, taught two STEM workshops at Peirce College to the young ladies at the Evoluer House.

The activity broke the girls into small teams and each team was tasked with mailing a single chip without breaking it. Each team was given a budget along with a list of supplies available for purchase. The scoring was based on how intact the chip was after being shipped, lightest weight package, and how close or under each team was to budget. The activity taught skills, such as team building, problem solving, and project management. It was an exciting two days for all involved! WiNUP Mid-Atlantic looks forward to continuing to grow its relationship with the Evoluer House.



*Photos Courtesy of The Evoluer House.

Chapter Activities & Events

Networking for Introverts By Nikki Militello

On September 12th, at PJM's Conference and Training Center, WiNUP Mid-Atlantic hosted a second Networking for Introverts workshop.

The workshop focused on the science behind what makes an individual an introvert as well as the unique skills an introvert has to offer. We also tackled some of the awkward scenarios networking can bring such as starting or ending a conversation. This session even spent some time focusing on how the skills discussed can be used on a smaller scale, daily in the office.

The workshop was a tremendous success with over 20 men and women in attendance both in person and on the phone. The highlight of the workshop was the incredible participation we received from all attendees during a 10 minute networking session which allowed them to use their new skills. For more information on some of the key aspects focused on during the event, please visit www.quietrev.com.

QUIET
REVOLUTION [Click!](http://www.quietrev.com)



WiNUP @ PGW By Jaleesa Jackson

September 18, 2019 was a day to remember for the ladies of WiNUP! WiNUP members had the opportunity to visit Philadelphia Gas Works (PGW) for a fun day of networking, value, and enrichment.

The day started with continental breakfast and introductions from PGW's CEO Craig White, PGW's COO Doug Moser and fellow WiNUP member, Eloise Young, SVP of Information's Services and Corporate Planning.

The ladies were then treated to a tour of PGW's CHP unit. The unit sits outside on PGW's main campus. Inside the lobby is an interactive screen that gives up-to-date details on the unit, its concept, and all the fun facts you should know about the unit. The tours were officiated by Michel Farag, Manager of Major Accounts and Sherif Youssef, Director of Major Accounts. PGW's Data Center tour was conducted by Craig Yorty, Supervisor for LAN/WAN Engineering and Joanne Kelly, Manager of Voice & Data Infrastructure. It showcased the in-house Data Center built to manage PGW's databases and critical systems. After the Data Center, the ladies were treated to a mini tour of Philadelphia, on the way to PGW's Richmond Plant LNG station. The tours were facilitated by Doug Moser and Ray Snyder, SVP of Gas Management.

After the tours, we headed back to main campus to enjoy lunch with PGW staff. Having the opportunity to listen to diverse career stories and opportunities was a treat in itself. We heard from WiNUP member Jaleesa Jackson, Enterprise Project Manager, Johnna Davis - Finance Supervisor, Seema Subnani - Director of Call Center operations and Lorraine Webb, VP of Organizational Development. What was profound about the panel session was hearing from women that had various tenures in the company. The common theme amongst them is the opportunity for continued educational and career development.

To recap a great day - learning about the different initiatives that PGW offers gives you an opportunity to take notes and possibly implement some of these ideas, within your own organization. It's the idea that even when walking into a workplace that isn't yours – you feel like you are right where you belong.

