



*The Women's International Network of Utility  
Professionals*

*2017 Mid-Year Board Meeting*

*June 30, 2017*

*Chapter Status Reports*

*DeCoffette Ward, President & CEO*



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Chapter Status Reports

2017 Mid-Year Board Meeting

June 30, 2017

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International Board Summer Meeting  
Friday, June 30, 2017, Columbus, Ohio  
**International Board Representative Report**  
Indiana Chapter  
Emily Schilling, International Representative

**Chapter Statistics:**

Number of Paid Members: 25

Treasury Balance: \$8,844.46

**Summary of International Representative Activities:** Member of the Member Services Ad Hoc Committee, Public Relations Committee Chair, Member of International Honorary Life Committee

**Please list all current year Board Meetings that you have attended:** February, April

**Chapter Highlights:** Our theme this year is “Steps to Success.” The basis for the theme is that we wear different shoes; we work in different roles at different utilities. Together, we are taking steps to be successful in our career paths within the utility industry. Highlights of the year included:

- Day of Service on March 15 which featured a shoe drive for Dress for Success and a morning volunteer activity sorting clothes for them.
- A tour of Vectren’s power plant in southern Indiana in April.
- A tour of a landfill gas-to-energy plant near Indianapolis in June.
- Planning an August regional meeting with the Metro Chicago and Northern Indiana chapters. The theme is “Be BOLD (Be Brave, Seize Opportunities, Lead Your Journey, Drive Results)”. WiNUP International President DeCoffette Ward will be one of our speakers.
- Awarding our first STEM scholarship to Samantha Sager and honorary chapter memberships to her and scholarship “runner up” Alexis Klink.

**Special Recognitions for Chapter Members:** Chapter Chair Mandy Saucerman and Vice Chair Vicki Peay for planning exceptional meetings. Saucerman is also our newsletter chair. She’s revamped our newsletter into an epub distributed via MailChimp that allows us to gauge who is actually reading the publication. Congratulations to our POWER Award nominee, Anita Johnson. Johnson, our Ways and Means chair, is the force behind our successful ScripPro gift card fundraiser. Because of this program and Johnson’s sales efforts, we were able to award our first-ever STEM scholarship this year.

**Other comments or concerns:**

**Respectfully Submitted,**  
**Emily Schilling, International Representative**



International Board (Summer) Meeting  
June 30, 2017  
**International Board Representative Report**  
Kentucky Chapter  
Kimberly Maynard, International Representative

**Chapter Statistics:**

Number of Paid Members: 15

Treasury Balance: \$1749.44

**Summary of International Representative Activities:**

**Please list all current year Board Meetings that you have attended:**

February call - present

**Chapter Highlights:** Continued support of local homeless shelters, local women's shelter.  
Doing Fundraiser to fund \$500 STEM scholarship

**Special Recognitions for Chapter Members:**

**Other comments or concerns:**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Kim Maynard, International Representative**



International Board Summer Meeting  
Friday, June 30, 2017, Columbus, OH  
**International Board Representative Report**  
Metro Chicago Chapter  
Kelly Krupa, International Representative

**Chapter Statistics:**

Number of Paid Members: 67  
Treasury Balance: \$2,284.95 paypal

**Summary of International Representative Activities:**

[Working with DeCoffette on paypal](#)

**Please list all current year Board Meetings that you have attended:**

IB Meeting on February 28, 2017  
IB Meeting on April 27, 2017  
IB Meeting on June 29-30, 2017

**Chapter Highlights:**

Regular activities and a combination of professional development, experiential, and social offerings.

January: New Year Social  
February: Professional Perspectives with Janet Rehberg  
March: Healthy Professional and Natural Offerings  
May: Professional Perspectives Panel with 3 Director level members  
June: Aviation site visit  
July: Baseball game social  
August 30, 2017: Regional meeting

As of June 23, 2017, we have doubled our membership from 2016.  
Monthly Briefs and Quarterly Newletters

**Special Recognitions for Chapter Members:**

[Leadership team for commitment to chapter and member development:](#)  
[Melissa McLindon for Membership Committee](#)  
[Natalie Ladd for Communications Committee](#)

**Other comments or concerns:**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Kelly Krupa, International Representative**



International Board Summer Meeting  
Friday, June 30, 2017, Columbus, Ohio  
**International Board Representative Report**  
Nashville Chapter  
Ashley Dickens, International Representative

**Chapter Statistics:**

Number of Paid Members: 32

Treasury Balance: \$1958.63

**Summary of International Representative Activities:**

- Facilitated WiNUP Member Panel at April Membership Drive;
- Assisted coordination of Watt's Bar Nuclear Plant Tour
- Submitted report for Summer IB meeting.

**Please list all current year Board Meetings that you have attended:**

February – proxy Karen Brown

April – technical difficulties with teleconference

**Chapter Highlights:**

February 11, 2017 TWISTER Volunteers (STEM for girls at Adventure Science Center)

April 6, 2017 Membership Drive/Meeting with guest speaker, DeCoffette Ward

May 4-5 Spring Retreat, Watts Bar Nuclear Plant Tour

June 23, 2017 General Membership Meeting

- Chapter Professional Growth Committee Book Club re-established: First book, Option B by Sheryl Sandberg, to be read and discussed over the summer

**Upcoming Events:**

August 3, 2017 Soldier for a Day – Ft. Campbell, Open invitation

Sept 7, 2017 Lebanon Gasification Tour

**Special Recognitions for Chapter Members:**

Chapter Chair Sally Martino and International Vice President Dianne Nuñez deserve recognition for coordinating amazing meetings, unique opportunities and plant tours this year, especially their work towards the Membership Drive. Special guest DeCoffette Ward spoke to us about her WiNUP Journey, sharing nuggets she's accumulated along the way. Most influential was the advice to create our own dream boxes, being specific about what we want, motivating us to make the most of our careers and never give up on ourselves.

**Other comments or concerns:**

Excited to show our support of our Chapter with the Nashville WiNUP Shirt – designed and sold by Debbie Sain; currently, we are collecting donations for a future STEM scholarship.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Ashley Dickens, International Representative**



International Board Summer Meeting  
Friday, June 30 Columbus OH  
**International Board Representative Report**  
Northern Indiana Chapter  
Wanda Smith, International Representative

**Chapter Statistics:**

Number of Paid Members: 26

Treasury Balance: as of 4/28/2017 checking \$3,382.28 and savings \$8,131.73.

**Summary of International Representative Activities:**

- I have attended the International Board meetings via telephone.
- I have reported back to the Northern Indiana Chapter with meeting notes and information updates.
- I have participated in the Chapter's Fundraisers by contributing items for the silent auction and preparing Valentine's Day chocolate rose arrangements.

**Please list all current year Board Meetings that you have attended:**

- February 28, 2017 attended via telephone.
- April 27, 2017 attended via telephone.

**Chapter Highlights:**

- In February, the Chapter hosted a meet and greet kickoff luncheon meeting in Fort Wayne so that all the members could come together to meet, network, and create chocolate rose and candy arrangements for the Valentine's Day fundraiser.
- Also in February, the Chapter held a Valentine's Day fundraiser selling a variety of chocolate rose and lollipop arrangements. The sale was a huge success and raised \$629.53 after expenses. The proceeds will be used to replenish the Helen J Murray Scholarship fund.
- In March, the Chapter hosted a Women's History Month luncheon. The guest speaker was Lisa Fritz, I&M's Safety & Health Manager. This year's theme was "Honoring Trailblazing Women in Labor and Business." Lisa spoke of her life experiences and the difficulties she has had to overcome in male-dominated fields. She also highlighted some of the women in her family that have inspired her to overcome obstacles and to always strive for her goals. We had 28 lunch attendees and a silent auction which raised a profit after expenses of \$338.00. Funds will be used to support future professional development sessions. We acquired one new WiNUP member. The Chapter provided lunch for the event.

- As a part of Women's History Month, the Chapter also held a successful clothing drive for Dress for Success and will be donating the collected items during the second week of June.

**Special Recognitions for Chapter Members:**

**Other comments or concerns:**

- The summer edition of the Chapter newsletter was issued the beginning of June 2017.
- Also in June, the Chapter will organize and lead a school supplies drive, and the donated items will be given to Charis House.
- In July, a networking event is planned in Warsaw, IN at one of the member's home.
- The group will be participating in a regional meeting on August 30 at Fair Oaks Farms.
- The group will be volunteering at ETHOS' Fall Spooktacular on October 27-28.
- The group will be walking in the Breast Cancer Walk this fall in Fort Wayne.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Wanda Smith, International Representative**



International Board Summer Meeting  
Friday, June 30, 2017, Columbus, Ohio  
**International Board Representative Report**  
Ohio Chapter  
Kristen Thompson, International Representative

**Chapter Statistics:**

Number of Paid Members: 160

Treasury Balance: \$

**Summary of International Representative Activities:**

- Attend the quarterly Ohio Chapter Meetings and officer's meetings and present a summary of International Board Meetings
- Serve on the Mentoring Committee of the Ohio Chapter
- 2017 International Guidelines Committee Chair
- Currently serving as the 2017 Arrangements and Decorations committee chair for the 2017 conference.

**Please list all current year Board Meetings that you have attended:**

- February 28, 2017
- June 30, 2017

**Chapter Meetings**

- ***2017 Kick Off Meeting***  
***January 2017***

This 2017 kickoff event featured an introduction of our new officers and guest speakers, Ohio Chapter Executive Sponsors Sandy Nessing and Teresa Smith. The 2017 Ohio Chapter theme was introduced- "Develop Your Passion to Empower Your Future!"

- ***Nurture Your Passion Through a Healthy Lifestyle***  
***February 2017***

This monthly meeting featured Cassandra Helwig, Health, Wellness and Productivity Manager who spoke on the importance of healthy habits and behaviors.

- ***Develop Your Passion Through Doing Good in Your Community***  
***April 2017***

Luncheon where leaders of the organization Dress for Success were presented a \$5,000 check on behalf of American Electric Power.

Tracy Harrison, Vice President and Program Director and Molly Preston, Suing Program Manager were at this meeting to accept the donation and spoke on developing a passion through doing good in the community.

- ***Build Your Passion Through Education***  
***May 2017***

This dinner event featured high school students from Cristo Rey High School and their Director who spoke about their educational experiences that focuses on a work/school balance and provides students with business world experiences.

- ***Finding Your Passion Through Networking***  
***June 2017 Event***

Guest speaker Rich Toronto, Organizational Development Consultant.

This networking event focused on tips, tricks and tools for success to empower result.

### **Other Activities**

- ***STEM***

***April 2017***

7 members presented at Olentangy Orange Middle School's annual Science and Technology Career Day.

- ***Spring Clothing Drive***

***May 2017***

In May, WiNUP joined efforts with AEP's African American Employee Resource Group and collected over 1, 200 items that were donated to Dress for Success and OSU's Star House. Both are local charities that aid women in their journey to enter the workforce.

- ***Mentoring Program***

April marked the end of the 2016/2017 Mentoring program and featured a closing ceremony for the matches.

The 2017/2018 mentoring program kicked off with an opening meeting in June. 10 members were selected from a pool of applicants and paired with hand selected mentors for an 8 month mentoring journey that includes 1 on 1 mentoring, a book club and development opportunities at monthly meetings specifically for the mentors.

- ***Newsletter***

2 newsletters published, March and June

### **13 Committees for 2017**

Mentoring

Conference

STEM

Holiday Social

Clothing Drive

Newsletter

Website/Technology

Finance

Special Events/Community Outreach

Hospitality

Historian/Records Management

Membership

Ways & Means/Scholarship

### **Respectfully Submitted,**

Kristen Thompson

Ohio Chapter International Representative



International Board Summer Meeting  
June, 2017 Columbus  
**International Board Representative Report**  
Cindy Berry, International Representative

**Chapter Statistics:**

Number of Paid Members: 4  
Treasury Balance: \$1,893.56

**Summary of International Representative Activities:** no activity

**Please list all current year Board Meetings that you have attended:**  
Feb. 28, April 27

**Chapter Highlights:** We had a chapter meeting in San Antonio, our first in several years.

**Special Recognitions for Chapter Members:**

**Other comments or concerns:**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

*Cindy Berry, International Board Representative*



International Board Summer Meeting  
Columbus, OH 06/30/2017  
**International Board Representative Report**  
Southwest Virginia/ Northeast Tennessee Chapter  
Karen Gilmer, International Representative

**2017 Chapter Statistics:**

Number of Paid Members: 8

Treasury Balance: \$618.76 (04/28/2017)

**Summary of International Representative Activities:**

- Participated in the Member Services Committee
- Participated in the chapter executive council monthly conference calls

**Indicate all Board Meetings that you have attended from the list below:**

- February 28, 2017
- April 27, 2017

**2017 Chapter Highlights:**

- Financially supported 3 local public school districts with the purchase of special glasses for students to view the solar eclipse in August.
- Joe Jones gave a presentation at a lunch time meeting on the importance of mentorship and development of our inner circles
- We are still trying to increase our membership

**Special Recognitions for Chapter Members:**

Karen Gilmer was profiled on the AEPNow website for Woman's History Month.

**Other comments or concerns:**

We are excited to have 2 new members!!!

We are still trying to contact other industries and organizations in the region to obtain membership.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Karen Gilmer, International Representative**



International Board **Summer** Meeting  
**Friday, June 30, 2017, Columbus, Ohio**  
**International Board Representative Report**  
**Virginia** Chapter  
**Doni Palmer**, International Representative

**Chapter Statistics:**

Number of Paid Members: 27

Treasury Balance: \$9,074.37

**Summary of International Representative Activities:**

- I currently serve on the Mentoring Committee of the Virginia Chapter
- I attended the quarterly Virginia Chapter Meetings and officer's meets and presented a summary of International Board Meetings
- I attended the Final Reception for the Women in STEM Mentoring Program at Virginia Western Community College
- I have been asked to serve on the Virginia Chapter International Conference Scholarship and Grant Award committee

**Please list all current year Board Meetings that you have attended:**

- December 15, 2017    X
- February 28, 2017    X
- June 30, 2017        Attending

**Chapter Highlights:**

**Meeting Topics Include:**

- **January 26, 2017: Membership Luncheon – “Living the Principles: Make “Your” Impact”** Held at Appalachian Power Company Roanoke Office, guest speaker J.J. White. J.J. is an amazing motivational speaker, executive leadership coach, and master trainer of Dale Carnegie Training. He talked with the attendees about ways to ignite our

passion to connect with others and ourselves that reveals the value those interactions<sup>12</sup> bring to our daily lives.

- **March 23, 2017: Women's History Month – “Honoring Trailblazing Women in Labor and Business”** Held at Pennhall Training Facility, speaker April Connel. April is the 2017 Virginia Chapter Chair and is a Senior Plant Environmental Coordinator with AEP Hydro and Solar. She had a short presentation with “The Women of AEP Hydro” and Mark MacGlothin, Plant Support Specialist, discussed the Debris Removal at Leesville and Smith Mountain. After lunch, April conducted a tour of APCO's ‘Camp Kilowatt’.
- **May 10, 2017: Bosses Luncheon – “Perseverance and Taking Care of You”** Held at the Hidden Valley Country Club, guest speaker Kelly Zuber. Kelly was the WDBJ 7 News Director until last year. She was head of the newsroom when two journalists were shot at Smith Mountain Lake on live TV in August 2015. She spoke of her professional experiences through the year and how they gave her the strength and wisdom to lead the newsroom in the hours, days, weeks, and months following the tragedy. She also spoke about the importance of take care of YOU and how she didn't do such a good job with this, but has learned to cope with the help of friends, loved ones, and therapists specifically trained to help people who've suffered a work place tragedy including line mechanics who've lost a colleague due to electrical contact.

#### **Additional Meetings and Events:**

- **April 6, 2017: Women in STEM Mentoring Program Final Reception** Held at Virginia Western Community College, guest speaker Dr. Jennifer Groh. Dr. Groh spoke about her education, career, and how it lead her to going from academia to a Talent Development & Organizational Effectiveness Consultant position with Caterpillar in Lafayette, Indiana. Several WiNUP members volunteered for the mentoring program and this was a celebration of all the participants successes.
- **May 11, 2017: Habitat for Humanity Women Build** Approximately 9 WiNUP members volunteered with Habitat for Humanity during Women Build Week. Each year, Lowe's sponsors the week all across the nation, empowering women to get out and give back to their local communities.

#### **Special Recognitions for Chapter Members:**

April Connel sponsored a team of Virginia Western students who entered the VWCC STEM Innovation Challenge sponsored by The National Science Foundation (NSF) and the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC). The challenge is open to any community college student who has a fresh idea using STEM. The team entered the challenge with a process that will extract dangerous toxins from coal powered generation plants fly ash waste. April has also been nominated for the Power Award again (she was nominated in 2016 as well)

Barbara Carter has been nominated for the Oak Award. Barbara has been an active and supportive member of the Virginia Chapter since its inception and has served on several committees over her time.

Corinna Dunn is Mrs Southwest Virginia and was a 2017 Delegate in the Mrs. Virginia Pageant held in April. The pageant's charity fundraiser is 'Victoria's Voice' which works to raise the awareness of drug addiction epidemic. In addition to being a Zumba and Dance Instructor with 'Just Dance Roanoke', Corinna was also featured on a local magazine "ColorsVA" for her support and involvement with the Children's Trust of Roanoke Valley. She works as a "Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)" for abused children and is passionate about donating her time and recruiting others.

**Other comments or concerns:**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

*Doni Palmer*, International Representative



International Board Summer Meeting  
June 30, 2017 Columbus Ohio  
**International Board Representative Report**  
West Virginia Chapter  
Janet Hewitt, International Representative

**Chapter Statistics:**

Number of Paid Members: 64

Treasury Balance: \$8,178.02 as of 3/23/2017

**Summary of International Representative Activities:**

WV Members serving support International:

Ruby Greenhowe – Energy Affairs Chair

Trena Riffle – Historian

Janet Hewitt – Budget & Finance Chair and Professional Development co-chair

Kay Bostick – International Treasurer

DeCoffette Ward – International President (dual membership)

**Please list all current year Board Meetings that you have attended:**

February 28<sup>th</sup> and April 27<sup>th</sup>

**Chapter Highlights:** The WV chapter has been very active; we have held business meetings on January 26<sup>th</sup> and March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Following the business meetings the program committee has brought to the members two great sessions. In January we held a Communications workshop and in March a focus on safety.

In celebration of Black History Month and honoring a Women Leader from West Virginia, our chapter went to see Hidden Figures.

Our chapter volunteered at WV Mountain Mission in April, giving back to our community.

May 18<sup>th</sup>, WV Chapter held a Professional Safety-Self Defense Educational class presented by Joseph Saunders WVAU Police Dept.

WV chapter has started a book club. The first book that we will be discussing “The Power of Habit: Why We Do What We Do in Life and Business”

We have set our 2017 Professional day event for August 17<sup>th</sup> which will be on Emotional Intelligence. This is currently in the planning stages. 15

**Special Recognitions for Chapter Members:**

Christina Massey – named to AEP's Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Council

Kay Bostick - spotlighted by AEP for her efforts as a Wellness Champion

Joelle Connors - Named to the State Journal's Generation next: 40 under 40 for 2017

Misty Heldreth – Customer services supervisor for WV

**Other comments or concerns:**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Janet Hewitt, International Representative**