

# The Bulletin

JANUARY 2016



Empowering Women in Utilities Since 1923

## Relevant, Resilient, and Responsive in 2016



Danette Scudder,  
International President

Resolutions. (Sigh). Starting the last week of December (if not sooner), we are inundated with ads targeted to resonate with the goals we may resolve to achieve in the New Year: healthier lifestyles, career changes, financial management, organizational

skills, bucket lists, etc.

As well intentioned as they may be, I would argue that most people dread the thought of actually making resolutions – if for no other reason than they don't want to acknowledge the very real possibility of breaking them. But inevitably with a new year and a fresh start of the calendar, it seems the most opportune time to make such resolutions.

As I began my term as WiNUP President, I started thinking about what it really means to make a resolution. As is my habit, I consulted the dictionary to see if the definition I walk around with in my head is what the word actually means.

For the purpose of this message, according to this excerpt from *Merriam Webster*, resolution can mean any of the following things:

- 1:** the act or process of **resolving**: as
- a :** the act of analyzing a **complex notion** into **simpler ones**
- b :** the act of **answering**
- c :** the act of **determining**
- 2a :** something that is **resolved**
- b :** **firmness of resolve**
- 3:** a **formal expression of opinion, will, or intent voted by an official body or**

### assembled group

In 2016, I hope collectively we can resolve to do all of the above – without dread or fear of not achieving our goals. Through the member survey (which hopefully all of you took the time to complete) we will get a sense of what is important to our members and can respond accordingly.

Based on that feedback, we have information that can **allow us to take the varied and sometimes complex notions** we have about what WiNUP was, is and can be to **create simple, streamlined solutions to improve our member services**. Ultimately, this can help in **determining the otherwise unquantifiable value of WiNUP membership**.

In my experience, organizations that are governed successfully are able to put aside the opinions and desires of the individuals in favor of what benefits the group as a whole. As your **International Board, the official body of the group**, we should have a **firmness of resolve** to do just that – **set aside the personal and serve as representatives of our constituents – our chapters and our members in total**.

Admittedly, that's a tall order to fill. Neither I, as the president, nor the International Board, as your governing body should do this alone. So, I am asking you, the members of WiNUP, to help us succeed in our resolve to be responsible and accountable to you and to make the appropriate choices to improve our organization so it continues to be relevant, resilient and responsive in the way that best serves our members as a whole.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you this year.



### Leadership 2016

#### WiNUP Executive Committee

President: Danette Scudder  
 Vice President/President Elect: DeCoffette Ward  
 Secretary: Holly Huffman  
 Treasurer: Kay Bostick  
 Immediate Past President: Carolyn Gordon

#### International Board Representatives

ArkLaTex: Denise Battle  
 Atlanta: Vacant  
 East Tennessee: Beth Duggar  
 Indiana: Jennifer Hatfield  
 Kentucky: Kim Maynard  
 Members-At-Large:  
     Stacy Edwards  
 Metro Chicago: Liz Dousias  
 Mid-Atlantic: Helen Burnley  
 Missouri: Judy Gustafson  
 Nashville: Debbie Sain  
 New York: Loretta DiCamillo  
 North Central: Brenda Sandahl  
 North Texas: Sue Mercer  
 Northern Indiana:  
     Sharon McFarland  
 Ohio: Cindy Helenthal  
 South Texas: Cindy Berry  
 SW VA/NE TN: Karen Gilmer  
 Virginia: Doni Palmer  
 West Virginia: Misty Heldreth

### Important Dates!

- **Jan. 31:**  
2015 Chapter financial reports due to Executive Director Claudia Powell from 2015 chapter treasurers
- **Feb. 1:**  
2016 Membership dues due
- **March 1:**  
\$10 late fee assessed if dues not yet paid
- **March 31:**  
Additional \$10 late fee assessed if dues not yet paid

## Duke Energy Speaks

MID ATLANTIC

In December the Mid-Atlantic chapter offered a tour of PJM's Control Center and hosted Caren Anders as a speaker. Caren is the Vice President of Operations Support at Duke Energy Corp. The discussion between Caren and the audience was rousing as she discussed her career development and how networking and mentoring played such a vital role.



Caren Anders, Vice-President

Duke Energy Corp.

## Dress The Part

NASHVILLE

A new curriculum is being introduced at Maplewood High School, an at-risk school in the Nashville area with a drop out rate of 40%. Recognizing the importance of the job interview, its board agreed a class teaching interview skills would benefit the students and possibly aid in changing the dismal drop

out statistic. Interview wardrobe pieces were donated by members of the Nashville chapter at the final 2015 meeting. Students are allowed to purchase these items for a small amount. With some tutoring from the WinUP members, and a great interview outfit, these young ladies are one step closer to success. After all, you've got to dress the part to get the job!



Maplewood High School Guidance Counselor

## STEM & WinUP



**Be sure to keep us posted on your chapter's STEM activities. Deadline for submittal for the spring Connection is February 19th. Email the details along with photos of your event to dsain@mesystem.net.**

## Conference 2016 Registration Rockin'

The Conference Planning Committee is hard at work making sure your visit to Nashville, Tennessee is a memorable one.

The first thing to do is register for the conference at [www.winup.org/events](http://www.winup.org/events). From there you can pay online, donate to the Imagination Library, choose your tour time, and book your room.

For those of you booking early, the Early Bird Registration prize is a Michael Kors bag. It will be awarded to the lucky recipient at the conference. That deadline is January 30th.

Stay tuned in to the conference

planning by doing the following things:

- Sign up as a member on the WinUP website so you won't miss any "Shout Outs"
- "Like" the conference Facebook page - Nashville WinUP
- "Follow" the conference Twitter account - @Nashville WinUP
- Watch for any updates from the WinUP Executive Director

"See Ya'll in Nashville!"



**Pay Your Dues Online!**

Ohio Chapter Vice-Chair, Lindsay Chambers wins safety slogan contest. "Safety is Everyone's Blue Chip" will be used on marketing / internal communications material. Congratulations Lindsay!



WINUP Needs You!

Serving on an international committee is a great way to learn more about the organization and to meet members from various other WiNUP chapters. The international committees & chairs are below:

- Budget and Finance** – Janet Hewitt
- Chapter Development and Retention** – Janet Rehberg
- Energy Affairs** – Ruby Greenhowe
- Fellowship** – Lynn Adamson
- Guidelines** – Kristen Thompson
- Historian** – Trena Riffle
- International Conference** – Debbie Sain
- International Honorary Life Award** – Lila Munsey
- Member Publications** – Debbie Sain
- Mentoring** – Vacant
- New Member Development** – Helen Burnley
- Nominating** – Vikki Michalski
- OAK Award** – Velda Otey
- Parliamentarian** – Dorothy Stoler
- Past Presidents Council** – Carolyn Gordon
- Past Presidents Grant** – Carolyn Gordon
- POWER Award** – Janet Hewitt
- Public Relations** – Emily Schilling
- Ways and Means** – Karen Shugart
- Website and Social Media** – Holly Huffman & Sally Martino

Committee descriptions are available in the WiNUP Guidelines. If you are interested in serving on one of these committees, please email International President Danette Scudder at [dscudder@tvppa.com](mailto:dscudder@tvppa.com).

## Well I've Never Been to Heaven, But I've Been To Oklahoma

BY JANET REHBERG

One of the strategic goals of WiNUP is to recruit both new members and new chapters. I was very excited when Stacy Edwards from Oklahoma joined as a Member-at-Large. Stacy became very involved with WiNUP and was elected as one of the International Board Representatives. Her passion for WiNUP motivated her to bring back the Oklahoma chapter that had previously disbanded. Stacy teamed up with Debbie Schroeder and Debbie Brown (a former Oklahoma Chapter chartered member) to host a recruiting drive at PSO. The event was held on October 22, 2015 at the Tulsa General Office.



We had over 15 women who attended. I was very honored to be the speaker that day. It gave me the opportunity to not only share with them all the great benefits of WiNUP, but also reunite with old friends I haven't seen

in years. Everyone in attendance was interested and excited about the prospect of re-starting the Oklahoma chapter; however, similar to most other chapters, securing financial support is their biggest challenge. Although, with strong new leaders like Stacy and Debbie, I'm confident that together we can find a way to help them resolve this challenge. Being a former Oklahoman, I would love to see the Oklahoma chapter join the WiNUP family again!

## Even Coke Was New in 1985

NASHVILLE

In world events and culture, 1985 can be characterized as heralding in the new. Windows 1.0 is released, the first successful artificial heart transplant occurs, Gorbachev becomes the de facto leader of the Soviet Union, and the NES game system hits the US. Even Coke was new in 1985. And of course, the Nashville Chapter of WiNUP was chartered! In December 2015, the Nashville Chapter hosted a 30th Anniversary celebration commemorating Nashville's charter, inviting previous members to meet for lunch and enjoy reminiscing and what turned out to be a heated silent auction.

The chapter members inducted newly elected officers, visited with dear friends, exchanged contact information, and talked of the challenges



## Do You Know When Your Chapter Was Chartered?



of hosting an international conference. That is the beauty of WiNUP. The Nashville Chapter gleaned important information from those who had made past conferences a success. The retired members are looking forward to the conference in 2016. It was a great time of fellowship and cake!

## Indiana Gains 13 Members!

INDIANA

The Indiana Chapter's "Tools for Success" Regional Conference, held Oct. 19, 2015, in Indianapolis was an overwhelming success! No pun intended. The seminar had a wonderful turnout and gained 13 new members for the Indiana Chapter! The theme for the event, "Tools for Success," was also the chapter's 2015 theme. It was incorporated into each quarterly meeting held. In this picture, Velda Otey explains the six "tools" WiNUP provides to women in the utility industry before facilitating roundtable discussions on each topic.

