



WIA Connections Spring 2012 | [Click here to view online](#)

April, 2012

## Connections Newsletter

Dear Annette,

Another great year already is underway for Women in Aerospace in 2012! The Board of Directors has held its first meeting of the year and approved the 2012 Strategic Plan that will continue WIA's growth while focusing on building a strong foundation, and the officers held a kickoff retreat in January and have hit the ground running, already hosting several events and planning many more you can join!



Stephanie Schierholz  
President

We have a fantastic officer team this year who will be at the service of our outstanding members: President-Elect Renee Leduc Clarke, Vice President of Professional Development Sara Fuentes, Vice President of Programs Stephanie Bednarek, Vice President of Membership Karen Yasumura, Vice President of Communications Jennifer Hoil, Treasurer Emma Hinds, and Secretary/Historian Noëlle Milliard.

In 2011, WIA welcomed a pilot program to expand our presence beyond DC to include local networks in southern California and Florida, and we're adding Utah in 2012. Look for more details in Renee's update.

WIA's expansion within the U.S. mirrors the growth of WIA's global networks -- now encompassing WIA Europe, WIA Canada, and WIA Africa -- who work directly with the Board to grow and serve an international community.

A core mission of WIA is to provide professional development opportunities to our members, and we've already held two members-only events. Sandy Coleman, Joyce Winterton, and Suzy Sterner generously shared their wisdom and experiences at our Feb. 22 event "What I Wish I'd Known." And Cathy Delhanty shared her expertise for the first of this year's "How To..." series, providing insight to members on how to improve your visibility.

In addition, our first program of 2012 brought together an enthusiastic group in February for the annual WIA Night at the Washington Capitals.

WIA members also are invited to meet one another and network at our ongoing membership receptions. Thank you to those who joined us for the first membership reception on April 3rd at Jones Day, in Washington DC. Members and prospective members are invited to join us in Colorado, where we again will be hosting a WIA Reception at the National Space Symposium on April 18.

Please save the date and join us June 1 for what promises to be an outstanding and informative day of professional growth and discussion on topics of interest across the aerospace industry. WIA's third daylong conference is Aerospace 2012: Leading the Way, and we have a great committee already at work to ensure this is a day you won't want to miss.

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If you're interested in taking a more active role in WIA through volunteering for a committee, please send me an email at [President@womeninaerospace.org](mailto:President@womeninaerospace.org). We keep our members informed through our email distribution, this quarterly newsletter and on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. Please connect with us online to ensure you don't miss any of the exciting opportunities and developments in 2012! We have a great year ahead!

Sincerely,



Stephanie Schierholz  
President  
Women in Aerospace



## Membership Update

I just wanted to take a moment to thank all of our current WIA members. Our membership has grown substantially in the past year, helping to diversify our WIA base. We now have members working in all aspects of the aerospace community, from satellites, to launch, to exploration, aviation and education.

It's been exciting to see a WIA presence in so many places. We have a great year ahead, and several events for members only. If you're not yet a member, it's not too late. Sign up today with the link below, or scan the barcode to be taken directly to the sign up page.

We had our first membership reception on April 3rd on the rooftop of Jones Day. It was a beautiful evening and members were able to network outside with views of the Capitol Building. Thank you to all who attended and to our generous event sponsor, Jones Day!



Karen Yasumura, VP of  
Membership

**Robert Burke**  
Northrop Grumman  
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**Christina Frederick-  
Recascino**  
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**Rachel Guill**  
BAE Systems  
**Janet Karika**  
Jacobs Technology Inc.  
**William Klanke**  
Space News  
**Colleen Oresky**  
SAIC  
**Susan Saadat**  
Thrane & Thrane  
**Barbara Slayton**  
Lockheed Martin Corporation  
**Peggy Slye**  
Futron Corporation  
**Judy Smith**  
ITT Exelis  
**Dr. Rebecca Spyke Keiser**  
**Samantha Segall Anderson,**  
Ex-Officio  
SAIC  
**Sandy Coleman, Ex-Officio**  
ATK

## WIA Officers

**Stephanie Schierholz**  
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**Renee Leduc Clarke**  
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**Stephanie Bednarek**  
VP Programs  
**Sara Fuentes**  
VP Professional Development  
**Jennifer Hoil**  
VP Communications  
**Karen Yasumura**  
VP Membership  
**Emma Hinds**  
Treasurer  
**Noëlle Milliard**  
Secretary

WIA Corporate Members



WIA Board and Officer Team at the Membership Reception. From left to right: Annette Summers, Executive Director; Stephanie Bednarek, VP of Programs; Dianne Sosa, Vice Chair of the Board; Renee Leduc Clarke, President-elect; Lillian Ryals, Chair of the Board; Karen Yasumura, VP of Membership; Sara Fuentes, VP of Professional Development



Scan to join Women in Aerospace today!  
or visit [www.womeninaerospace.org/join](http://www.womeninaerospace.org/join)



## Corporate Member Spotlight - Ernst & Young

The global Ernst & Young organization is a leader in assurance, tax, transaction and advisory services. Worldwide, our 152,000 people are united by our shared values and an unwavering commitment to quality. We make a difference by helping our people, our clients and our wider communities achieve their potential.

We are committed to creating a people culture that stands out by including, developing and engaging every individual at Ernst & Young and fostering a high-performance environment. Our focus on developing women as professionals and as leaders continues to drive our progress in diversity and inclusiveness -- and in the marketplace. We strive for diversity of thought to bring the best quality service to our clients. This is how we foster a people-oriented culture with consistent support at every level of the organization.

We at Ernst & Young LLP are very proud of our Aerospace & Defense practice. The firm's team of professionals dedicated to the sector uses its vast industry knowledge to provide a wide array of valuable services to our clients. Our Center of Excellence produces industry-specific thought leadership materials and training programs to keep our clients informed about the latest industry accounting developments and trends.

Throughout the Ernst & Young organization we are honored to support Women in Aerospace in its mission to expand women's opportunities for leadership in the aerospace community.

### Platinum Members

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## Lots of Energy and Engagement from WIA's Network across the US

My first three months as President-elect have been highlighted by some great interactions with the leaders of WIA's new U.S. pilot chapters in Southern California, Florida and Utah. In 2011, WIA welcomed a pilot program to expand our presence beyond Washington, DC to include local networks in southern California and Florida, and we're adding Utah in 2012.



Renee Leduc Clarke  
President-elect

WIA Florida kicked off the year with a great networking event in January, sponsored by United Space Alliance. WIA's President, Stephanie Schierholz, was pleased to be able to travel down to the event in Cape Canaveral. WIA Florida is planning its next event in April under the leadership of WIA Florida president **Jill Stirling**.

WIA Southern California held its first event of the year on March 2, a no-host networking event following the Space Acquisition Forum of the Los Angeles Chapter of the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA) in Marina Del Rey. Kudos to WIA Southern California for building on other space-related events in the region and adding networking value through WIA for aerospace professionals. The chapter plans to organize similar events later this year under the leadership of WIA Southern California president **Jeanne Innis Olsen**. In addition, Northrop Grumman has graciously volunteered to sponsor a WIA panel discussion at their Redondo Beach facility this summer.

WIA Utah is starting its inaugural year with a lot of energy under the leadership of president **Karen Quinn**. The chapter will celebrate its launch with an open house and networking social on April 20 at the ATK Ogden Canyon Conference Center at 5pm. The open house will include an introduction to WIA membership benefits, a special welcome from WIA in Washington, DC, and an opportunity to meet other professionals in the Utah aerospace community.

Joined by WIA's Past Board Chair Sandy Coleman and Past President Samantha Segall Anderson, I was pleased to be at NASA's Langley Research Center in Hampton, VA for International Women's Day festivities on March 8. WIA was so pleased to be a featured part of "The View at Langley" - a takeoff on the popular television show - and to share information about WIA during lunch table discussions. We were excited to see the energy at NASA Langley for WIA, and hope that additional events can be held there in the future.

We are pleased that leadership from many of WIA's U.S. chapters will be joining us at the WIA reception at the National Space Symposium in Colorado Springs on April 18. We look forward to seeing WIA members from all over the U.S. in Colorado Springs. If you have any questions about the chapters, [or want to get more involved](mailto:info@womeninaerospace.org), please contact us at [info@womeninaerospace.org](mailto:info@womeninaerospace.org).



### WIA Announces Aerospace 2012: Leading the Way

Aerospace 2012: Leading the Way is the theme of WIA's day-long conference on issues of importance to women and men in the aerospace industry.

Coming to the Key Bridge Marriott on Friday, June 1, 2012, the conference agenda features morning sessions of special interest to women in aerospace and those who

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### What I Wish I'd Known: An Intimate Discussion With Female Leaders from Across the Aerospace Field



Sara Fuentes, VP of  
Professional Development

In a lounge at the back of a Senate-side restaurant, WIA members gathered to exchange their personal stories of growth. Tips for dealing with sexual

hire, mentor and promote them. Lunch and afternoon sessions follow which focus on topics of broad interest across the aerospace industry. End your day with a networking reception!

[Register](#) today!

## Agenda

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>8:00 a.m.</b>  | <b>Registration</b>   |
| <b>9:00 a.m.</b>  | <b>Keynote Presentation featuring NASA's Deputy Administrator Lori Garver</b>   |
| <b>10:20 a.m.</b> | <b>Professional Development Workshops:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ <b>How to Take (SMART) Risks in Your Career</b></li><li>■ <b>Women in Industry &amp; Women in Government: The Similarities and Differences</b></li></ul> |
| <b>12:00 p.m.</b> | <b>Lunch with Featured Speaker</b>  |
| <b>1:30 p.m.</b>  | <b>Aerospace in the 2012 Election</b>   |
| <b>3:30 p.m.</b>  | <b>Breakout Sessions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ <b>Satellite Servicing: Has it Come of Age?</b></li><li>■ <b>The Future of Human Space Flight</b></li><li>■ <b>Fatigue in Aerospace Missions</b></li></ul>                |
| <b>5:30 p.m.</b>  | <b>Networking Reception</b>   |

Click [here](#) to view the entire WIA Conference Agenda and Speakers.

## Registration Information

- The conference registration fee includes all events of the day, including the lunch and reception.
- Lunch-only registration may be on an individual, table or half-table basis
- All registrations must be received at the WIA office on-line or by fax no later than May 21, 2012.

\*WIA is pleased to offer complimentary registration to members of the federal government and military. If you have questions about your ability to accept free registration, please contact your agency ethics advisor.

[Register here](#) for the 3rd Annual WIA conference, Aerospace 2012: Leading the Way!

[Click here](#) for special conference room rates at the Marriott Key Bridge Hotel!

With appreciation to our Sponsors:

harassment, knowing what to do with a business card after it's exchanged, and strategies for being the only woman in a room were shared.

Director of NASA Exploration Programs (ATK) Sandy Coleman, Director of Government Relations (ITT Exelis) Suzy Sterner and Senior Advisor for Education and Leadership Development (NASA) Joyce Winterton sat down behind closed doors for an off the record look at their own career paths and their advice for their fellow WIA members. What I Wish I'd Known: An Intimate Discussion with Female Leaders Across the Aerospace Fields provided a chance to find out how the women you admire seem to know it all---and how you can too!

Want to know more? Become a WIA Member! Joining WIA is the only way you can attend professional development events like last month's intimate discussion, as well as participate in our "How To..." series. In the past year, WIA members have learned how to ask for a raise, how to social network online, and how to plan your finances (among many more!). Join us this year as we learn How to Promote Your Visibility, How To Navigate Ethics Laws, and more!

## Achievements for Women in Aerospace

***The Indomitable Lt. Col. "Jackie" Parker, USAF - the 1st Woman to Qualify to Fly an F-16 and be Assigned to a Fighter Squadron (April 21, 1994)***

Jacquelyn Susie Parker (Jackie) attended the University of Central Florida, majoring in mathematics and computer science. She graduated from college at age 17, the youngest graduate in the school's history.

After college, Jackie became an intern at NASA's Johnson Space Center and was responsible for analysis of onboard computer systems; by age 18, she became the youngest full-fledged mission controller in NASA's history.

After completing Officer Training



School in 1980, she entered pilot training at Reese Air Force Base Lubbock, Texas. She received her pilot wings in 1981 and later became the first female T-38 instructor there. Between 1983 and 1985, she was named "Most Outstanding T-38 Academic Instructor" five times. Jackie transitioned to C-141 transport aircraft and was assigned to the 76th Military Airlift Squadron as an instructor pilot and squadron executive officer.

In 1989, she graduated from the Air Force Flight Test Pilot School at Edwards Air Force Base as the first female test pilot in the history of the United States Air Force. And in 1994, Lt. Col. Jackie Parker became the first woman in the U.S. Air Force to become combat qualified to fly the F-16 and be assigned to a fighter squadron.

She is twice the recipient of the prestigious "Kitty Hawk" Award for achievements in the field of aviation.

## WIA Foundation Update

### WOMEN IN AEROSPACE FOUNDATION SELECTS SCHOLARSHIP WINNER FROM CU- BOULDER

Washington, DC - The Women in Aerospace (WIA) Foundation, Inc., is delighted to announce Ms. Kirstyn Marie Johnson as the recipient of the WIA Foundation Scholarship. Ms. Johnson, a junior in aerospace engineering sciences at the University of Colorado at Boulder (CU) will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to be applied to the 2012-2013 academic year.



The Foundation was impressed by her award-winning work with the Colorado Undergraduate Space Research Symposium and with her many volunteer activities, from the CU Engineering Fellows program to Students for the Exploration and Development of Space (SEDS) to Habitat for Humanity. In her undergraduate tenure, she has worked on two sounding rocket payloads, an earth-imaging satellite, and on human factors for future exploration missions.

"Ms. Johnson has a strong desire to make an impact on this world, such as by encouraging high school students to pursue engineering degrees and solving the mysteries of outer space for humans to live and work in space," said Debra Facktor Lepore, WIA Foundation President. "She understands that engineers can make a difference and is already making a difference herself and for others."

The WIA Foundation scholarships are funded by generous donations of individuals and corporations around the aerospace community. The WIA Foundation Board, WIA Board, WIA officers, and several companies continue to contribute ongoing financial support. This investment is creating an Endowment fund to support the success of the Foundation's programs and ensure the scholarship program continues in perpetuity.

"The WIA Foundation is grateful to its many supporters who are making our scholarship program possible," Lepore said. "We are proud to provide opportunities to the next generation of women in aerospace."

#### Upcoming Events

**April 18, 2012**

*WIA Reception at the  
National Space  
Symposium*

Location: The Broadmoor  
Divide Room II (on the  
lower level of the West  
Meeting Rooms)  
Colorado Springs, CO  
Click [here](#) to register.

**June 1, 2012**

*Aerospace 2012  
WIA's 3rd Annual  
Conference*

Location: Key Bridge  
Marriott  
Arlington, VA  
Click [here](#) to register.

**August 22, 2012  
MEMBERS ONLY**

*Speed Mentoring*  
Location: Jones Day  
Washington, DC  
Click [here](#) to register.

**November 1, 2012**

The scholarship will be presented at the 27th Annual WIA Awards Banquet on Thursday, November 1, 2012, at the Ritz Carlton Pentagon City Hotel in Arlington, Virginia. This event draws over 300 people to celebrate the tremendous accomplishments of women throughout the aerospace community.

For more information and specifics about the 2012-2013 scholarship, contact [info@womeninaerospacefoundation.org](mailto:info@womeninaerospacefoundation.org)

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*27th Annual WIA Awards  
Dinner and Ceremony*  
Location: Ritz Carlton  
Pentagon City  
Arlington, VA



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[www.womeninaerospace.org](http://www.womeninaerospace.org)

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