



www.mcwt.org

MCWT HAPPENINGS – Spring & Summer, 2008

Greetings!

Here are highlights of Michigan Council of Women in Technology Spring occurrences, topics of interest, and a view of what is coming up this summer on the busy MCWT agenda!



MAJOR EVENT

2nd Annual MCWT Golf Outing Quickly Approaching

The Second Annual **MCWT Golf Outing** is on the horizon. This fundraiser for the MCWT Foundation takes place on **Tuesday, July 22nd, 2008** at Pine Knob Golf Club in Clarkston, Michigan.

As an MCWT supporter and association member, you have three ways in which to register for, and support, this spectacular occasion:

- 1 As a **sponsor**, you can contribute to the MCWT Foundation and the event by donating a sponsorship package. Packages range from \$100 (gifts) to \$7,500 (as the signature sponsor for the day/evening).
- 2 As an **auction participant**, you have the opportunity to bid on golfing, that day, with a prominent CIO (the list is still being compiled but companies like GM, Ford, AAA of Michigan and Comerica Bank are featured --- all of whom have willing senior level IT executives/golfers, who are participating in the auction. You will have the chance to play with them if you win).
- 3 As an **attende**e, (golfer or non-golfer), you can register for the full day program, or for only the evening festivities.

The full-day event includes: 18 holes of golf, golf demonstration with a pro, buffet lunch and dinner, prizes, cocktails and networking. The evening-only event includes: cocktails, dinner, and networking.



As a special attraction, the evening speaker for the MCWT Golf Event is:

Madeline Triffon, Master Sommelier, Director of Wine for the Matt Prentice Restaurant Group



Madeline Triffon



One of the first women in North America to become a Master Sommelier, Ms. Triffon will discuss her personal journey, her passion for her craft, and her focus on developing a solid organization to support her company. Don't miss this opportunity to get practical tips and advice from one of the most knowledgeable wine experts in our region. Her presentation will *also* feature a premium wine-tasting and wine auction.

Register now for this unique event at www.mcwt.org (Early registration ends on July 7th)

Early registration for the full day: **\$170.00** (non-member) **\$120.00** (MCWT member)

Early registration for evening: **\$ 55.00** (non-member) **\$ 45.00** (MCWT member)

MEMBERSHIP AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEES - JOINT NEWS!

New MCWT and MCWTF Web sites Launching Soon

Through the assiduous efforts of Operations Committee Chair, Gail Bernard, and Operations Committee Co-Chair, Connie Panzica, completely-redesigned MCWT and MCWT Foundation Web sites will be launching midway through the summer of 2008. The new sites will allow for easier updates by Committee Chairs; faster updating with news and events; and will additionally provide a series of easily-accessible benefits to MCWT members. This effort has taken over 6 months, and required Gail and Connie to coordinate input from all committees, with special reviews by Marketing/Communications, Partnership, Membership, and Events. Please THANK THEM for their efforts, and look for the new sites soon!

Membership Committee Taking Full Advantage of New Web Sites



In particular, the MCWT Membership Committee, who has strongly assisted in the total revamp of the MCWT site, will be using this opportunity to meet many of the requests of members over the last several years. You will soon be able to use the site to register your interest in committees; to sign up for the MCWT mentorship program and other benefits; to search for jobs available through MCWT partner companies; and to access a wider range of information about your fellow members.

Here is a special message to all MCWT members from Membership Chair, Deb Swink: "As the flowers move into full bloom, it's a time for all of us to do some housekeeping; including the MCWT. **Please take a few minutes to update your profile on the Web site.** As we launch our new "Members Only" area, we will use your profile for participation in mentoring and our new directory. **Help us keep your database up to date!**"

Membership Committee Launches 2008 Mentoring Program

75% of surveyed Fortune 500 CEO's cited mentoring as one of the 3 top factors in their successful careers. Companies with a mentoring program typically experience a 71% improvement in leadership, managerial skills and productivity. Keeping these facts (and others) in mind, MCWT launched its 2008 Mentor Program in early May. With the intention to do a thorough job of "matching" experienced mentors with upcoming professionals who will benefit from mentoring (called "mentees"), the program kicked off a Web site-based mentoring survey on May 1st. Some highlights of the program include:



- The Mentor/Mentee engagement is twelve (12) months
- Participants meet monthly
- Each quarter, all participants will be invited to attend a networking/coaching/learning session to enhance the mentoring experience for both participants
- MCWT will solicit feedback at the end of the mentoring experience to enhance the program moving forward

Please go to the MCWT Web site, or contact Deb Swink at deb.swink@csileasing.com for further information.

MCWT FOUNDATION NEWS



Educate, Inspire, Succeed... We Can Change The World!

WWW.MCWTF.ORG

Partnership Recognition Event Honored Seven 2008 Recipients of MCWT Foundation Donations

At the year's Annual Partnership Recognition Event, held May 1st at the Birmingham Country Club, over 40 sponsoring companies were honored for their generosity in donating, in 2007, to the MCWT Foundation. Among other highlights of the evening, our 7 recipients, in 2008, of 3 scholarships, 3 technology gifts, and one research grant were honored.

This year's scholarship recipients included:

- **GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP WINNER: FAITH HEIKKILA** – is a resident of Kalamazoo, Michigan who holds a GPA of 3.87 in her doctoral program, majoring in Information Systems at Nova Southeastern University. Expected to complete her dissertation on secure remote access in 2009, Faith is the published author of over 11 computer security-oriented whitepapers, and has been a presenter at multiple security-focused conferences and forums, organized by ISSA, Infragard, SecureWorld, GLIMA, and a number of educational institutions and community organizations.
- **4 Year UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP WINNER: NIKOLE NAJORKA** – carries a GPA of 3.84, and is a graduating senior from Stevenson High School in Livonia, Michigan. She will be attending the

University of Michigan, Dearborn campus, in the fall, pursuing a degree in computer science and computer engineering.

- **3 Year UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP WINNER: RODENA WOODS** – is a working mother of two currently majoring in Computer Information Systems at Muskegon Community College. She expects to graduate in 2010.

The **First MCWT Foundation research grant** went to **VICKIE GALVIN**.

Vickie was a recipient of one of our laptop/printer donations in 2007. The mother of 3 adult daughters, Vickie is a part-time student pursuing her Business Information Systems degree at Wayne State University, while she works full-time as the Executive Assistant to the Superintendent of Redford Union Schools. In 2007, Vickie received her Associate's Degree in Applied Science, Business Information Systems from Macomb Community College, while she worked full-time. Currently holding a GPA of 3.4, she expects to complete her degree in 2012. The research grant that she has won will be applied to the study and development of communication objectives, using information/procedures emanating from a District Communication Team at Redford Schools, to improve staff development in the School District of Redford Union.



This year's three laptops/printers were awarded to:

NAKIA MAYE - The mother of four "wonderful boys", Nakia works full-time and is also pursuing her Associates Degree in Computer Information Science from Henry Ford Community College, with an expected graduation date of 2009. She holds a proud GPA of 3.48

JESSICA STEVENSON – Jessica is just completing her freshman year at Davenport University, pursuing a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biometric Security.

KATE VAJDA – Having completed her freshman year at Central Michigan University, Kate currently boasts a GPA of 3.76. She is the Secretary for CMU's

ACM student chapter; and she has recently embarked on establishing a high school curriculum, to be implemented by CMU college students, to teach 9th through 12th graders as much as possible about personal computer repair, networks, and programming.

EVENTS COMMITTEE AND MCWT FOUNDATION OFFER JOINT THANKS AND GRATITUDE! PARTNERS AND INDIVIDUAL DONORS HONORED....

In the 4 years since its inception, the MCWT Foundation has awarded over \$365,000 in scholarships, robotics team grants, technology stipends, Web site contests with prizes, and support for 4th through 7th grade girls in the form of an annual summer technology camp. Its successful high school **GET-IT** ("Girls Exploring Together, Information Technology") program has expanded to 3 high schools; and on the high school level, alone, over 9 robotics teams are now funded by the MCWT Foundation.

None of this would be possible without the **strong support** of the MCWT and Foundation Boards, MCWT individual members, the long hours put in by MCWT volunteers (including Committee ChairPeople and enthusiastic committee members), individual donations (through the online donation program and other means) and the generous support of corporate donors.

On May 1st, the Events Committee honored our partners and individual donors. And both the Foundation and the committee would like to **thank them again** with special recognition to:

2007 DIAMOND CORPORATE PARTNERS:

- **AT&T**
- **4Gen Consulting**

2007 PLATINUM CORPORATE PARTNERS:

- BearingPoint
- Cisco Systems
- Compuware Corporation
- Deloitte
- Electronic Data Systems
- Ford Motor Company
- General Motors Corporation
- GMAC Financial Services
- (Jack & Cherri) Musser Foundation
- Lawrence Technological University
- Microsoft Corporation
- Wipro Technologies

2007 GOLD CORPORATE PARTNERS

- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan
- Ciber
- Keane, Inc.
- R. L. Polk & Co.
- Ricoh Business Systems - Michigan Branch
- Sun Microsystems

2007 BRONZE CORPORATE PARTNERS:

- AMI Strategies
- Accretive Solutions
- Airfoil Public Relations
- Analysts International
- Arvin Meritor
- CBS/ WWJ Newsroom & The Great Lakes IT Report
- Executive Search Partners L.L.C.
- Fast Switch
- Hewlett Packard
- Jawood Management Associates
- Kelly Services
- Lighthouse Consulting Partners
- MGM Casino
- Michigan News Network
- Midwest Technology Leaders
- Netarx
- Rave Computer Associates
- Refresh Detroit
- Salesforce.com
- SunTel Services
- Vertabase
- Walsh College

Individual Donors (2007)

Emerald Individual Donations:

(>\$1000)



- **Diane Cairns** (\$3000 endowment for the High School GET-IT Programs)

Pearl Individual Donations:

(\$500 - \$999)



- **Rosemary Bayer**
- **Sandra Moore**
- **Kathleen and Dale Norton-Schock**

Topaz Individual Donations:

(\$100 - \$499)



- **Linda and Art Weber** (in honor of Michelle Pallas)
- **Dan Hoover**
- **Kathleen Norton-Schock** (in honor of Tracy-Ann Palmer)

Other Individual Donations:

(<\$100)

- **Cheryl Blacher**
- **Don Brown** (in honor of Michelle Pallas)
- **Mike Carroll**
- **Debra DeSousa**
- **Karen Downard**
- **Ivana Enright**
- **Diane Fumerola** (in honor of Michelle Pallas)
- **Laura Gurnee**
- **Paul Hillmann**
- **Greg Hirsch**
- **Mark and Angela Klank** (in honor of Michelle Pallas)
- **Susan Konzen** (in honor of Kathleen Norton-Schock)

- **Kurt Layson**
- **Carla Lopez** (in honor of Michelle Pallas)
- **Bill McMillan**
- **Carlton Orse**
- **Constance Panzica**
- **Chris (Katrevisis) Rydzewski**
- **William Shell**
- **Liz Siver**
- **Jeff Stanislow**
- **Deb Swink**
- **Monica Van Scyoc**
- **Angela Wang**

MCWT Foundation's INDIVIDUAL Online Donation Program launched in October, 2007. You, too, can contribute to the great work being accomplished by this 501 (c) 3 outgrowth of MCWT [by visiting the Foundation Web site](#), and clicking on the "How You Can Help" button on the left hand side of the page.

Foundation Board News

Kathy Schroeder, long-time Secretary for the MCWT Foundation, is now *DR*. Kathy Schroeder, having successfully completed her PhD at Lawrence Technological University this spring. Please congratulate this busy Polk IT Manager, mother, and adjunct professor, who also manages to contribute so much to our organization in her "spare" time.

MCWT Foundation SUMMER CAMP Infinity LOOMING!

The Annual MCWT Foundation Technology Summer Camp (Camp Infinity) for 4th through 7th grade girls is fast-approaching. It will be held this year from **July 14th through 18th** at **Lawrence Technological University**. The program, designed to introduce young women to computer and Internet technologies through hands-on activities, will be attended by 40 Metro Detroit-area fourth through seventh grade girls selected through an application process.

According to the National Council for Research on Women, the percentage of women enrolled in undergraduate computer science programs has drastically declined over a 15-year period. In 1984, the percentage of computer science degrees earned by women was 37 percent. The percentage dropped to less than 20 percent in 1999, when 90 percent of high school students taking advanced placement tests for computer science college credit were male. In "Balancing the Equation: Where Are Women and Girls in Science, Engineering and Technology?" the NCRW study concluded that young women benefit from math and science programs that are designed exclusively for them and that use a cooperative, hands-on approach rather than stress competition and individual learning.

The camp's forty students will be divided into two groups of 20 – (20 4th and 5th grade students and 20 6th and 7th grade students.) The girls will work in teams to create graphics, content and technical Web site components under the direction of university students, faculty, and women professionals.

The camp will provide opportunities to meet women professionals who work in technological fields, develop a Web site sharing interests and camp experiences in technology, participate in fun, interesting and educational activities associated with technology.

If you would like to volunteer to assist on any day of camp, please contact Gloria Schneider at gschneider@bcbsm.com or Rosemary Bayer at rosemary.bayer@sun.com.

SPECIAL MCWT MEMBERSHIP PROFILE

THANK YOU TO GAIL BERNARD – Chairperson, Operations Committee



For over four years, Gail Bernard has functioned as the “backbone” of much of MCWT’s operational infrastructure, and has chaired its Operations Committee for most of that time. Additionally she also co-chaired the MCWT Communications Committee for over 1.5 years (in 2006 into 2007), and still valiantly contributes (through special email blasts, and updates to our Web site) to keep communication flowing inside MCWT and the MCWT Foundation.

Gail has over 20 years of experience in the Information Technology and Consulting Services Industry. Her career began with DaimlerChrysler after completing a Bachelor of Business Administration in Management Information Systems from the University of Michigan.

While at DaimlerChrysler, Gail’s career evolved from Programmer to Sr. Analyst. Gail then joined a local consulting firm and moved into a Senior Account Representative role, responsible for the EDS and DaimlerChrysler accounts. In 1992, Gail became Branch Manager for Kelly Technical Services. Under her direction, her office grew 75% to over \$30 million in revenue. In 1996, she began the startup of the Detroit office for Interactive Business Systems. As Branch Director, Gail founded and implemented several technology service offerings including the Enterprise and Network Technology group, Oracle Consulting group and PeopleSoft Consulting group. Her contributions to the growth of Detroit office included overseeing the fastest growing and most profitable branch in the 20-year history of IBS. Gail has worked for an IBM Business Partner supporting and providing IT infrastructure solutions to diverse clients, and for AMI Strategies, a technology expense company as a Senior Consultant.

Thank You!



Currently, Gail has recently become a Project Specialist for the United States District Court - Eastern District of Michigan. She is responsible for establishing and implementing the Project Management Office for all Court Units. Her scope of responsibility includes monitoring all Court projects to ensure their timely execution.

There has been no MCWT function, no committee, no special event, and virtually no operational area that Gail, and her team, have not touched, led or contributed to. Her energy level is boundless; and her consistent contribution to MCWT and the MCWT Foundation is much appreciated! When you next see Gail, please offer her a sincere “thank you” ---- without her efforts, MCWT would be much less successful.

Other MCWT News:

Midwest Technology Leaders Fundraiser – June 4th

As part of its annual symposium focused on CIO's and the teams who report to them, the Midwest Technology Leaders organization contributed half of the proceeds from its **June 4th** cocktail and awards reception, held at MGM Grand's IGNITE supper club, to the MCWT Foundation.

For more information about MTL, that fundraising effort, and other information about the full technology-focused event, please visit www.midwesttechnologyleaders.com



MCWT Scholarship Winners Again Featured on The Radio

Escorted by MCWT President, Andi Karaboutis, and Marketing Vice President, Kathleen Norton-Schock, two of the 2008 MCWT Foundation scholarship winners are featured on the **June 7th INTERNET ADVISOR** show on **WJR 760 A.M. Radio in Detroit**. Graduate scholarship winner, Faith Heikkila and undergraduate scholarship winner, Nikole Najorka, joined Andi & Kathleen in a special program --- with hosts, Gary Baker and Foster Braun. Both Baker and Braun are long-time supporters of MCWT and its Foundation.

The podcast will be linked to the MCWT Web site throughout the months of June through August, so you can hear your newest members and winners express their thoughts on their education(s), careers, and issues faced by girls and women in the IT field.

Volunteers Wanted/Needed!

Charity Ginger, MCWT Volunteer Coordinator, is mounting an aggressive campaign to seek out new volunteers to contribute to all MCWT and Foundation committees. She is hosting regular Friday morning orientation sessions for those who are interested in volunteering:

- Events Committee
- Marketing/Communications Committee
- Membership Committee
- Partnership Committee
- Foundation Committees, events and Subcommittees

You can reach Charity at: charity.ginger@ricoh-usa.com

THANKS for reading our Spring/Summer MCWT newsletter!

If you have any comments/questions, please contact:

**Kathleen Norton-Schock, V.P. Marketing at: Kathleen@midwesttechnologyleaders.com
or Rebecca Peplinski, MCWT Marketing Committee at: rebecca.peplinski@eds.com.**