

# Iowa-Illinois NDIA Chapter Newsletter

<http://www.ndia-ia-il.org>

Fellow Iowa/Illinois NDIA members,

This is the first of Quarterly Newsletters that will be coming to you as an active member of the Defense Community. Your local chapter has long been involved in many National and local issues that affect the total defense posture of the United States.

At the local level your chapter has been involved in programs that affect the lives of ordinary citizens who have contributed to our nation's defense and helped people in Iowa and Western Illinois live better lives. Some of these activities include:

- Donations to organizations that support our active war fighters and veterans including significant donations to Project Healing Waters, USO Hot Dogs on Fridays at Rock Island Arsenal, VA Hospital, Jason's Box, Embracing Our Military, Navy Ball and many others.
- Donations to and participation in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) programs throughout the area including robotics teams, engineering camps and STEM activities at the Putnam Museum in Davenport.
- Providing an annual \$2000 STEM scholarship through the Quad Cities Engineering Council.
- Providing over \$130,000 in scholarships over the last 8 years to deserving students to children of NDIA members or members of military families.
- Holding an annual Symposium for the last 10 years in conjunction with organizations on Rock Island Arsenal. The purpose of the symposium is to help local businesses, both large and small, obtain contracts with the government

In the near future we have three programs scheduled (details follow in the articles below):

- A luncheon at the Arsenal Golf Club on Apr 12 featuring speakers from both the Iowa and Illinois Procurement Technical Assistance Centers.
- Acceptance of applications from children of our members and children of active military for \$2000 scholarships.
- The 11<sup>th</sup> annual Midwest Government Contracting Symposium on May 23-24 at the TaxSlayer Center in Moline.

As you can see we are a dynamic organization heavily involved in our local communities while striving to improve our common defense. As in any volunteer organization, members are the life blood to continue our work and, to paraphrase a World War I slogan, **We Want You**.

Yes we can use you in any capacity you feel comfortable with, whether it be helping a few hours per month, assisting review of scholarship applications, helping out at our Symposia, or providing new ideas to help our communities. We are looking for ideas to support programs in all our communities including Cedar Rapids, Burlington, the Quad Cities and Peoria. To obtain more information on getting involved,

contact George Rivard via phone (309-792-0321) or email ([G.Rivard@mchsi.com](mailto:G.Rivard@mchsi.com)). Please respond today. **We Need You.**

## **Apr 12 Luncheon Highlights PTACs**

Do you need any type of help with government contracting or are you interested in learning more about the Iowa-Illinois NDIA chapter? This is your opportunity. We are hosting a luncheon at the Arsenal Clubhouse on Thursday April 12 at 11:30 am.

Speaking at the luncheon will be the heads of the Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTACs) that serve the local area. These are Melissa Burant of the Iowa State University PTAC and Keli Krueger-Huhra of the Bradley University PTAC. Their talks will include the services these PTACs provide and insights on how you may best use these generally free services in Iowa and Illinois.

For those not familiar with PTACs they provide government contracting help with topics such as: Determining Your Businesses Suitability for Contracting; Securing Necessary Government Registrations; Preparing SDB, 8A, Hub Zone and other Certifications; Marketing to the Government; Identifying Bid Opportunities for Your Company; Preparing Government Contract Proposals; and a host of other areas that may come up when contracting with the government.

PTACs also host many training events that inform you about how the government buys goods and services and what will be expected of your company once it receives a government contract. This training has proven invaluable to companies that are both new to government contracting and have had some experience with government contracts. PTACs also offer a wealth of information and resources to help you navigate the government marketplace including videos, booklets and lists of contacts.

You can also get free one-on-one counseling from your PTAC representative to assist you through some of the vexing problems that may arise in any contractual situation.

In addition in attendance for questions and answers will be representatives from the local Army Small Business Office and from SCORE, a resource of the Small Business Administration.

Cost for the luncheon is \$15 for NDIA members and \$20 for Non NDIA members. Please add \$5 if purchased at the door. To make reservations go to <https://goo.gl/MYWVbj>

## **Scholarship Applications Due by 14 April**

The Iowa Illinois Chapter is now accepting applications for its 2018-2019 Scholastic/Leadership Scholarships. The value of each one year scholarship award is \$2,000. There are two scholarships available – NDIA and SGT Paul Fisher. The chapter will award one or more scholarships for each type. Only one scholarship will be awarded to selected applicants.

Applicants to either scholarship are limited to high school senior students enrolled in Iowa or Illinois high school, have a GPA between 2.6 and 4.0 at the end of their junior year, shown an interest in college

preparatory courses, and are active within the school community. Applicants for the NDIA Scholarship are limited to children of Iowa- Illinois chapter members, children of employees NDIA corporate members and children of government employees located on Rock Island Arsenal and Iowa Army Ammunition Plant. Applicants for the SGT Fisher Scholarship are limited to children of active military, reserve, National Guard or veteran in zip codes 61200 – 61699 in Illinois and 50000 – 52899 in Iowa.

Scholarship applicants may be found on the chapter's web site: [www.ndia-ia-il.org](http://www.ndia-ia-il.org). Completed applications are to be mailed to John Masengarb, 29925 -150 Ave, Long Grove, IA 52756. Applications must be postmarked no later than April 14, 2018.

## **Midwest Contracting Symposium Scheduled 23-24 May**

The 2018 Midwest Government Contracting Symposium is in its 11th year in the Quad Cities. This event has evolved over the years from a focus on small business towards a focus on all businesses interested in government opportunities. It has become the single most important conference for all businesses to gain insider knowledge and tools to best prepare them for government opportunities with organizations on the Rock Island Arsenal. Companies and Government agencies attend to share information on the current issues surrounding government contracting. Expert panels comprised of industry and government personnel will share real world scenarios and best practices. Small businesses, government agencies, and government prime contractors have the opportunity to network and connect to identify business opportunities. The two day event will not only provide the Advanced Planning Briefing for Industry for organizations located on the Rock Island Arsenal, but will also be an opportunity to learn and connect in ways that will help businesses acquire the skills and information they need to increase revenues and goals.

To obtain more information on the Symposium go to <http://www.ndia-ia-il.org> and click on Information and Registration for the Symposium.

### **Provide Your Input**

Thank you for reading this newsletter. To improve it for the future and to provide ideas for future articles contact George Rivard at [G.Rivard@mchsi.com](mailto:G.Rivard@mchsi.com).

