

## A Note From Brian S. Gocial, Incoming President



On June 3, 2015, I was honored to be elected to a two-year term as President of the Delaware Valley Chapter of NDIA. I am humbled and appreciative of the trust fellow Board members have placed in me, and look forward to maintaining our Chapter's long-history of effectively advocating for our region's defense community.

As a practicing government contract attorney at Blank Rome LLP, on a daily basis I see the issues and struggles our Nation's defense contractor's face in light of increased regulations, oversight, and

an uncertain federal defense budget. I believe NDIA is a critical resource for defense contractors in our region. We will strive to continue to keep members abreast of the latest statutory, regulatory and policy changes, and provide unique opportunities to network with our elected officials and defense leaders.

I want to specifically thank our outgoing President, Juan Penalver, who has provided exemplary leadership over the last two years. Under Juan's leadership our Chapter has consistently earned recognition from NDIA National as a Model Chapter.

Thank you Juan! You will be a hard act to follow.

## Cybersecurity: The Final Frontier "Staying Competitive in an Ever Changing Cyber Landscape"

On May 11, 2015 the Delaware Valley Chapter of the NDIA held its second conference on the subject of cybersecurity in partnership with the National Contract Management Association Greater Philadelphia Chapter. This program, which follows the September 2014 event at Drexel University, was held at the Pyramid Club in Philadelphia and an estimated 50 members attended.

The program began with an Federal Bureau of Investigation Cyber Division threat briefing from Russell Handorf. The briefing included a discussion of the commonality amongst high profile intrusions, the redefinition of best practices, examples of advanced malware that is becoming commonplace, and how the FBI currently investigates cybercrime. This briefing was followed by a legislative update from Joan Bondareff from Blank Rome Government Relations LLC. Topics included the latest cyber-related legislative developments on the Hill, information about the NSA, CIA, and emerging changes in the Federal Acquisition Regulations and Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement. The program then concluded with a panel discussion featuring Chief Information Officers from Lockheed Martin; The Boeing Company; and L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc. Jim Connelly from Lockheed Martin discussed intelligence based cyber defense developments. Kevin Meehan

discussed the next steps in cyber attacks on products. Jay Weinstein from L-3 Communications discussed the role and risks of the internet as a tool for business. Following each presentation and panel, the audience participated in a robust Q&A session.

We want to thank our sponsors for their generous sponsorship of this event: Blank Rome LLP, Triman Industries, Inc., and The Winthorpe Group. We also want to recognize the contributions of the NDIA board of directors for their support and in particular Brian Gocial, Jane Lowenstein and Joe Welsh, and Brian Connelly of NCMA. In addition, NDIA member companies L-3 Communications, Life Cycle Engineering, and PGFM Solutions LLC, each provided critical contributions in the planning for this event.

We received positive feedback from this event and will continue to bring our members educational opportunities related to cyber and other areas of concern to the Defense Industrial Base.

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## NDIA Golf Outing, August 3, 2015, Tavistock Country Club, Haddonfield, NJ



The 2015 NDIA Delaware Valley Chapter annual golf outing is almost full. There is room for 3-4 more foursomes. Please consider this business networking – fundraising event! Net funds are used to support top ROTC students at 12-14 local universities with a scholarship. The local chapter of NDIA also uses the funds to support other STEM initiatives such as SeaPerch. We support “Salute Our Hero’s”, educational programs on Cyber Security, and other Veterans programs. Also, think about sponsoring a contest, a hole, beverages, dinner or create your own! Anyone providing a sponsorship will be invited to the ROTC luncheon at the Union League to meet these impressive, future leaders!

The round of golf is a shotgun start at 12:00 noon. The complementary beverage cart and refreshments placed throughout the course keep all participants nourished as the battle ensues for bragging rights of victory at this prestigious event. Happy hour will kicked off with an open bar and some finger foods to get the appetite going. A buffet dinner and prizes will follow.



Please check the website often for updates on EVENTS and CHAPTER NEWS, find us at: [www.ndia-dvc.org](http://www.ndia-dvc.org).

## LETTER FROM THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT

As my term as President of the NDIA Delaware Valley Chapter has come to a close, I’m not quite sure whether to look back or look forward, so I’ll do a little of both. To begin, I would like to welcome and congratulate Brian Gocial of Blank Rome LLP on his election at our June board meeting as our new chapter president. This isn’t exactly a surprise, as he has been serving “above and beyond” as our 1st Vice President for the last two years, and is deeply involved in all of the chapter’s initiatives. Brian was a driving force behind our recent cyber security forum and I have called on his advice and counsel many times (pro bono, fortunately). Similarly, our second Vice President Joe Welsh, Attorney at Law, has moved up to 1st Vice President and brings years of board service and a wide range of professional experiences to this leadership role. I step down comfortable in the knowledge that the Chapter is in good hands.

I’d also like to give a word of thanks and acknowledgment to all the board members who have contributed so much of their time and energy to the Chapter’s events over the years. I don’t want to risk leaving somebody out so I won’t name names, but complex

undertakings such as the cyber security seminar, ROTC/NROTC awards luncheon, and annual golf outing ... or this newsletter, for that matter ... don’t happen by themselves, and it is only through the dedication and effort of our board members and committees, and the various contributions and sponsorships from member companies, that these events are possible. I’d also like to thank my Lockheed Martin colleague Joe Grossmann for all his hard work as Secretary/Treasurer these past two years.

And finally, if you haven’t signed up already, please consider participating in the annual golf outing! We are all set for Monday, August 3rd, at the beautiful and historic Tavistock Country Club in Haddonfield, New Jersey. This is our major fund-raising event for the year (registration details at [www.ndia-dvc.org/events](http://www.ndia-dvc.org/events)), with proceeds going toward ROTC/NROTC scholarship awards and STEM-related sponsorships. I do hope you’ll be able to join us.

Thanks again, and my best wishes to the NDIA Delaware Valley community for a great summer.

- Juan Penalver

## NDIA-DVC Annual ROTC/NROTC Awards Luncheon

Thursday, 23 April, the Delaware Valley Chapter Board members hosted the annual ROTC/NROTC Awards Luncheon in the Lincoln Library of the Philadelphia Union League. This year's luncheon was particularly rewarding for all attending as an opportunity for the board members to meet and informally exchange ideas and thoughts with both the Unit Commanders of the various units from twelve colleges and universities here in the Delaware Valley and the selected Cadets and Midshipmen whom are among the more exceptional students and future military officers that the board has recognized.

Again, this year's luncheon was multi purposed as the Sidney Ross Award for Technical, Academic, and Professional accomplishment was awarded to a selected honoree. Those receiving awards were:

Cadet Samuel Boonin, University of Delaware, Army ROTC  
Cadet Maxwell Burbidge, Valley Forge M.A.C. Army ROTC  
Cadet Stephanie Churchman, DeSales University, Army ROTC  
Cadet Alissa Elliott, University of Delaware, Air Force ROTC  
Cadet Noah Frick, Drexel University, Army ROTC  
Midshipman Abigail Kaiser, Villanova University, Navy NROTC  
Cadet Azeem Merchant, Drexel University, Air Force ROTC  
Midshipman Conor Newton, Drexel University, Navy NROTC  
Cadet Jeffery Owens, Princeton University, Army ROTC  
Cadet Robert Pichini, Temple University, Army ROTC  
Cadet Derek Silver, Rutgers University, Army ROTC  
Cadet Phillip Wubbolt, Widener University, Army ROTC



Midshipman Abigail Kaiser was selected to receive the Sidney Ross award as an Honor Student, Midshipman Company Commander, Mechanical Engineer and a participating member of The Society of Women Engineers.



Our guest speaker this year was Rear Admiral Jim Murdoch USN (Ret) who provided significant insight into his Naval Career after graduating as an NROTC Midshipman from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute with a Mechanical Engineering Degree. Adm. Murdoch served 33 years as a Surface Line Officer with numerous interfaces with Naval Ship Acquisition and Maintenance including a tour as the Program Executive Officer for Littoral Combat Ships, delivering the first hull of each variant. Adm. Murdoch discussed items of interest to the students as he cited numerous situations where he reflected on knowledge and experience that he had gained during his assignments as a Midshipman and how he built on that foundation throughout his Navy and now his Industrial Career.

The luncheon was hosted by our Board Chairman, Mr. Juan Penalver and attended by some 50 Board Members and guests.

- Tom Siegenthaler



## From the Editor

What do you think of this newsletter? How can it be improved? Do you want your company profiled in a future issue? Would you like to contribute a feature article in a future issue? Send me your feedback and suggestions so that we can improve this publication with each issue.

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**From the Editor**

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