

CHECKPOINT

President's Message

NDIA-Michigan Chapter Monthly Newsletter



Paul R. Curtis
President NDIA-Michigan
Chapter

2009 is racing by so please review the upcoming activities for the balance of the year in this issue of CHECKPOINT so you don't miss out. We have many meaningful events coming up. Two blockbuster symposiums; the Ground Vehicle Systems Engineering & Technical Symposium (GVSETS), our third annual Fall Business Event and everything in between makes this a productive year. Chuck Prikopa and Art Siirila, the respective symposium chairs, report that both events are on track and promise to be outstanding programs.

I anticipate that our gala black tie Annual Dinner Meeting on July 17 will be a sell out this year as it traditionally has been. Ticket information is available on our website.

Our General Motors Heritage Center Gala Event in April was a hit with 365 attendees. MG Scott West's keynote address set the tone for a wonderful evening. The comments we have received have all been very positive. Bob Ament did an outstanding job organizing the program. The feedback was so encouraging that the decision was made to do a similar gala event next year. Randal Gaeremincck will be the chair person. He has already selected the venue (Randal is not divulging the details at this time) and aims to make it a grand event.

I was honored to attend the Fallen and Wounded Soldiers annual dinner fund raiser earlier this month. The keynote speaker was Marcus Lutterell, a Navy Seal and author of the New York Times best-selling book "Lone Survivor."

It is the harrowing true story of four Navy Seals inserted in the mountains of Afghanistan to execute operation Redwing. An unparalleled motivational account of survival, the book is also a tribute to the friends and teammates who did not make it off the mountain. It is a powerful testament to the courage, integrity and community that forged these American heroes. I strongly recommend reading "Lone Survivor."

Be sure to check your Michigan Chapter website <http://www.ndia-mich.org/> for updates throughout the month.

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UP COMING EVENTS

Intelligent Vehicle Ground Competition

Location: Oakland University
Date: June 5th & 6th

56th NDIA-MICH Dinner Meeting

Location: Grosse Pointe Yacht Club
Date: July 17th

Ground Systems Engineering & Technology Symposium

Location: Troy Marriott
Date: August 18th thru 20th

3rd Annual Fall Business Event

Location: Troy Marriott
Date: September 14th & 16th

NDIA National: Combat Vehicle Conference

Location: Dearborn Hyatt
Date: October 12th thru 14th

NDIA National: TACOM Advanced Planning Briefing for Industry

Location: Dearborn Hyatt
Date: October 14th thru 16th

2009 Michigan ROTC Awards



2009 Michigan ROTC Awards Banquet. The Michigan Chapter of NDIA proudly co-sponsored the 52d ROTC Awards Banquet on April 17, 2009. The event recognized the outstanding achievements of students in Michigan Collegiate ROTC programs. The following Universities were represented: Eastern Michigan University, Central Michigan University, Ferris State University, Michigan State University, Michigan Tech University, Northern Michigan University, The University of Michigan, Western Michigan University and the Great Lakes Maritime Academy. Over 250 people participated in the event, recognizing 90 cadets and midshipmen for their

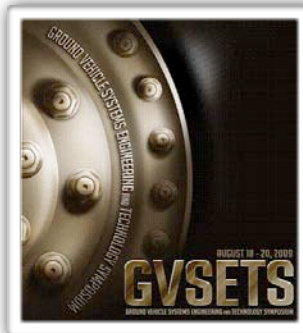
achievements in academics and leadership. The guest speaker, MG Scott West Commanding General of the United States Army Tank Automotive and Armaments Command, provided a motivating address. The Chapter was supported by the Greater



Michigan Armed Forces Week Committee, the Association of the United States Army and the Navy League in preparation for this event. Additionally, 19 Corporate Member companies of the NDIA Michigan Chapter served as sponsors for the event. Next year's event is planned for April 9, 2010. For additional information contact the event chairperson Don Kotchman (586-825-7901).

NDIA Michigan Chapter and Engineering Society of Detroit Release the GVSETS Call for Papers

You are invited to take an active role in the first annual Ground Vehicle Systems Engineering and Technology Symposium (GVSETS), by answering the recently released Call for Papers, and joining us at the symposium, which will take place 18-20 August in Troy, MI.

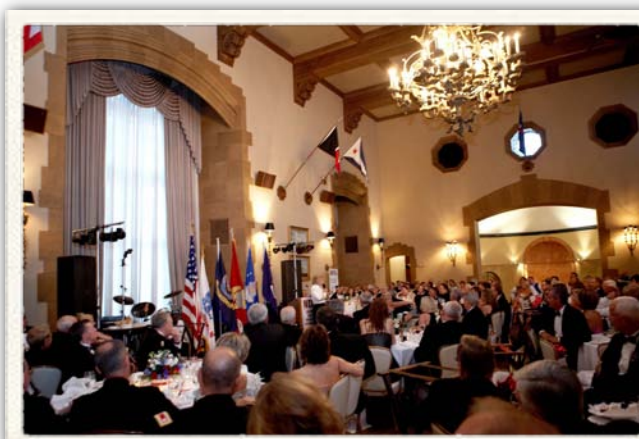


The National Defense Industrial Association's (NDIA's) – Michigan Chapter has engaged The Engineering Society of Detroit (ESD), to sponsor the Call for Papers for a series of parallel mini-symposiums to be held on Wednesday and Thursday, August 19 and 20, 2009 following the Symposium's Main Session. "This symposium will take a systems engineering approach to technology workshops", announced Dr. Grace Bochenek, of the U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center (TARDEC) Director. "This new event is strategically in line with the U.S. Army's enterprise level approach to doing business". Engineers from government, academia and industry are invited to submit abstracts. The

NDIA Michigan Chapter and Engineering Society of Detroit Release the GVSETS Call for Papers (continued)

symposium will feature presentations of papers judged as best among those submitted. Authors of the most outstanding papers will have the opportunity to present their material in person. All approved papers will be published in the proceedings following the symposium. On or before May 30, 2009, government, industry and academic engineers are invited to submit UNCLASSIFIED abstracts of 200 – 300 words describing the relevance and contents of their proposed papers in support of the Army's mission. Authors may submit papers individually or in collaboration with colleagues in the U.S. Army, other government organizations, academia or industry. To get full detail and download the call for papers, please go to <http://www.ndia-mich.org/>.

65th NDIA Michigan Chapter Annual Dinner Meeting



We are pleased to announce the 65th NDIA Michigan Chapter Annual Dinner Meeting. This year's event will provide you with an opportunity to visit with prominent military, civil service and industrial base colleagues in a formal setting. This gala event will be held at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club in Grosse Pointe Shores, Michigan on FRIDAY, 17 July. The evening will begin with cocktails at 6:00 PM, followed by dinner, awards, a guest speaker and then dancing. Attire is Black Tie/Dress Mess. Your industrial defense corporations play a vital role in the success of this annual event. Your support will ensure the Michigan Chapter's success. A ticket request form is attached for your completion: Individual tickets \$150 per person; and tables of ten available at \$1,500. We encourage you to consider full or partial table contributions, along with sponsorship of Chapter invited guests. Printable version of Registration Form can be downloaded from the NDIA-Michigan chapter Website: www.ndia-mich.org/events.php

Fax Credit Card Requests to NDIA Michigan Chapter (586) 795-2258. Questions regarding this event can be referred to Larry Rink: larry.rink@amgeneral.com Please fill out your request forms and forward your check, payable to NDIA Michigan Chapter, as soon as possible. Credit Card payment is available. RSVP deadline is 6 July. It may difficult to arrange seating after that date. If your organization has a slow disbursement department, please feel free to fax in your completed registration forms ahead of your check to (586) 795-2258. Please mail checks and forms (even if faxed earlier) to: NDIA Michigan Chapter, c/o Alexis Rossman , 35843 Mound Road, Sterling Heights, MI 48310

Dr. Lett honored with Lifetime Achievement Award

Longtime former General Dynamics Land Systems Vice President of Engineering, Dr. Philip Lett recently returned from his alma mater in Alabama to be honored with a 2009 Auburn University Alumni Association Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr. Lett is also a holder of an NDIA Gold Medal Award that was awarded to him in 1989. Dr. Lett graduated Auburn University in 1944 with a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering, and then received a master's degree from the University of Alabama. He earned his doctorate from the University of Michigan. Renowned for decades for technical and managerial contributions to the development of U.S. combat and tactical vehicle systems, Lett is universally acknowledged as the father of the Abrams main battle tank. The Abrams is viewed by the defense establishment as the most important tank in the history of mechanized warfare. Nearly 90 years old, Lett resides in the Detroit metro area.

The 17th Annual Intelligent Ground Vehicle Competition



June 5-8, 2009
Oakland University
Rochester, Michigan



What is Intelligent Ground Vehicle Competition?

The IGVC is the premiere university level unmanned ground vehicle competition in the world. It challenges students to think creatively as a team about the evolving technologies of vehicle electronics, controls, sensors, computer science, robotics, and systems integration throughout the design, fabrication and field testing of autonomous intelligent mobile robots.

CHALLENGES:

Autonomous Challenge:

Vehicles must negotiate an outdoor obstacle course in full autonomous mode.

Navigation Challenge:

Vehicles must maneuver using GPS coordinates to target destinations while avoiding obstacles.

Design Competition:

Submit a written report, make an oral presentation and demonstrate the vehicle.



The IGVC offers a design experience that is at the very cutting edge of engineering education. It is multidisciplinary, theory-based, hands-on, team implemented, outcome assessed, and based on product realization. It encompasses the very latest technologies impacting industrial development and taps subjects of high interest to students. Design and construction of an Intelligent Vehicle fits well in a two semester senior year design capstone course, or an extracurricular activity earning design credit. The deadline of an end-of-term competition is a real-world constraint that includes the excitement of potential winning recognition and financial gain. Students at all levels of undergraduate and graduate education can contribute to the team effort, and those at the lower levels benefit greatly from the experience and mentoring of those at higher levels. Team organization and leadership are practiced, and there are even roles for team members from business and engineering management, language and graphic arts, and public relations. Students solicit and interact with industrial sponsors who provide component hardware and advice, and in that way get an inside view of industrial design and opportunities for employment. For further information and the option to download this events brochure; visit the NDIA-Michigan Chapter Website: www.ndia-mich.org/events.php

3rd Annual Fall Business Event

September 14 -16, 2009 Organizer: NDIA - MI Location: Troy

Feedback from the 2008 Fall Business Event.....

“Best Industry related conference I have attended relevant information and speakers. I will be back next year!”

“A MUST for those new to Defense contracting and a good review for those like me who thought they knew it all.”

“A wealth of information available in one place that would take months or years to acquire on your own.”

NOTE: Exhibitors: Please contact Mr. Maury Moser at moserm@gdls.com.

**Includes Free Bonus: Pre-Conference Educational Session - “Introduction to Federal Contracting”

For further info contact: Art Siirila at 586-574-7069, or Barb Motala at 586-825-4581.

3rd Annual NDIA Michigan Chapter Fall Business Event

Expanding Opportunities in the Defense Industry: The Upside to Michigan's Economy

15-16 September 2009 at the Troy Marriott

Registration Opens June 1st. Registration Fee: \$375

Watch our website for more information! <http://www.ndia-mich.org/events/fbsevent.htm>

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