



# The Alliance Matters

Welcome to “The Alliance Matters”, a newsletter focused on keeping you informed about the Alliance initiatives and accomplishments, highlights about our Central New York (CNY) region, defense industry, members, our partners and upcoming events.

## Mission

The CNY Defense Alliance mission is to Promote, Advocate, Strengthen and Expand the region’s Department of Defense (DoD) and federal assets including the Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate (AFRL/RI), Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), Eastern Area Defense Sector (EADS) and the FAA Designated New York (NY) Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) Test Site, all located at the Griffiss Business and Technology Park.



Our **Goal** is to strengthen and expand our defense industry and high tech eco-system by supporting initiatives enabled by collaboration and partnerships with our region’s DoD and federal assets.



## Alliance Membership

**WELCOME** to our 2 newest members **Altamira** and **Phoenix Contract Management**.

Senator Griffo and Assemblyman Brindisi secured \$350,000 NYS “Base Retention” funding to support the CNY Defense Alliance and the initiatives to promote and strengthen the region’s Department of Defense (DoD) assets: AFRL/RI, EADS and DFAS in 2017 and 2018 that our Membership revenue cannot cover. While we are appreciative of NYS funding and support, please remember **OUR MEMBERSHIP IS OUR VOICE!** Second, the annual Membership Drive is intended to raise the funds needed to enable the Alliance to be self-sustaining. We cannot count on the NYS Budget to continue the work of the Alliance. We recognize that organizations may have limited discretionary funds so we have established a flexible membership fee structure that offers options for your organization to get involved. For more info go to: [www.cnydefensealliance.org](http://www.cnydefensealliance.org).

The CNY Defense Alliance **Annual Meeting** is tentatively scheduled for the week of 22 May 2017. Additional info will be sent in a separate notice. We have two Board positions available. If you are interested in running and your organization is a member of the Alliance, please submit your resume.



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## **AFRL Information Directorate**

The Alliance continues to have unprecedented support from our Federal representatives including Congresswoman Claudia Tenney and Congressman John Katko, and Senators Chuck Schumer and Kristen Gillibrand.

While, the DoD continues to operate under a Continuing Resolution, Senator Schumer addressed the Appropriations Committee and encourage them continue its consideration of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 defense appropriations bill, that included an additional \$5.0 million for AFRL/RI PE 0602788F Dominant Information Sciences and Method for the development of a ' Quantum Computing Center of Excellence'. All indications are that the Defense Bill will be passed before a Government shut down and AFRL/RI budget with the additional \$5.0M will be authorized.

Senators Schumer and Gillibrand, Congresswoman Tenney and Congressman Katko have also stepped out to work with the Appropriations Committee on additional FY18 research and development funds for AFRL/RI and the NY UAS Test Site. Initiatives submitted by the CNY Defense Alliance for consideration were:

- Quantum Computing [Public/Private] Center of Excellence
- Extreme Computing Open Campus
- Cyber Guard Testbed for Unidentified Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems

On March 9<sup>th</sup>, Congresswoman Tenney testified in front of members of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee in support of the Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate. *“Now more than ever our warfighters need the most innovative and high-tech tools to complete their missions successfully and return home safely,”* said Defense Subcommittee Chairwoman Kay Granger. *“I appreciate Congresswoman Tenney’s testimony today in front of the House Defense Appropriations Subcommittee that discussed the important role of Rome Lab in researching and developing cutting-edge technologies that contribute to this end.”* Tenney requested increased funding for both of Rome Lab’s budget lines: Cyber Battlespace Knowledge Development and Demonstration and Dominant Information Sciences and Methods. To view Rep. Tenney’s testimony, click here: <https://youtu.be/1V1eRDJvkEo>.

## **NY UAS Test Site/NUAIR**



The NY Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Test Site led by the Griffiss International Airport and managed by NUAIR continues to excel in 2017:

- Hosting technical exchanges and working collaborative initiatives with the AFRL Information Directorate, the FAA and NASA.
- \$250M NYS grant funding is enabling CNY (Syracuse) and the Mohawk Valley to develop a UAS Test Corridor from Griffiss

International Airport to Syracuse Hancock Field as well as research facilities that will support the integration of UAS in the National Air Space.



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- In March, Central New York Genius business competition awarded the 6 finalist teams a total of \$2.75 million in investments. The 6 start-up companies are focused on unmanned ground, air and marine system capabilities. The winners of the Genius NY business competition are required to participate in a year-long "incubator" program at the Syracuse Technology Garden, a business incubator in downtown Syracuse operated by CenterState Corporation for Economic Opportunity. For more information check out: [www.geniusny.com](http://www.geniusny.com).



## **2017 High Tech Small Business Symposium and Women in Leadership Roundtable**



The High Tech Small Business Symposium and Women in Leadership Roundtable sponsored and organized by the Science and Technology community of Rome, NY was a sell out success. A special thanks to AFRL Information Directorate for their support and the Mohawk Valley Community College for the use of their beautiful new facilities in Rome, NY.



Rome Mayor Izzo, Oneida County Executive Picente, Senators Schumer and Gillibrand and Congresswoman Tenney echoed strong support for the AFRL Information Directorate, the NY UAS Test Site at Griffiss International Airport and small business growth. Keynotes from AFMC General Pawlikowski, Lt. Governor Hochul, and Mr. Goddard, kicked off the event with strong messages on the opportunities for small business but with recognition that there will be obstacles and perseverance and hard work is a must. The afternoon was a full agenda, addressing local resources that can help transition ideas to a business. The presentations can be found on: [www.cnydefensealliance.org](http://www.cnydefensealliance.org).





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**THANK YOU to our Current 2017 Members/Sponsors**

*The Alliance is the ONLY not-for-profit corporation in the region that is positioned to legally engage in lobbying to advocate, strengthen and expand the region's DoD and federal assets.*

*Your support enables us to continue the important work of the CNY Defense Alliance. Special thanks to our current 2017 Members/Sponsors:*

- **PREMIER**
  - AIS
  - Altamira
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  - Capraro Technologies
- **COMMUNITY**
  - Black Owl
  - Phoenix Contract Management
  - Research Foundation for State University of NY

If you have information or news that you would like to share in the newsletter, please let me know. Also, we are always looking for community support. If you would like to get involved in the Alliance mission, please contact me at [mary.chruscicki@cnydefensealliance.org](mailto:mary.chruscicki@cnydefensealliance.org) or 315-617-2821.