



WELCOME:

Women of WEDA (WoW) was founded to create both an empowering and a safe space for women, women-identifying people, or anyone who considers themselves to be in the minority to network, discuss issues, and gain advice from others in the sector who work/live in similar situations (e.g., obtaining a seat at the table, having your voice heard once you are at the table, managing multiple different hats in work/life)

Upcoming Events

WEDA's Safety Commission Panel

- Zoom (Virtual)
- July 27, 2020: 1p EST
- More information:
westerndredging.org

WEDA's Education Commission Panel

- Zoom (Virtual)
- August 14, 2020: 1p EST
- More information:
westerndredging.org

Dredging Summit and Expo

- Tampa, FL
- June 14-17, 2021
- WoW Breakfast – time and location TBD

WEDA Eastern Chapter Meeting

- Charleston, SC
- October 13-15, 2021
- WoW Breakfast – time and location TBD

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

WoW Member: Carol Shobrook

Current Job: Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing, JT Cleary Inc.

Carol joined WoW to meet other women in WEDA and hear about what they are doing in the industry. She sees WoW as a great way to meet newcomers and to catch up with old friends.

Carol started her career as a CIA case officer which involved recruitment and management of field assets. She was posted overseas for a number of years, which enabled her to be immersed in different cultures and ways of thinking.

Her work was demanding and diverse, and she found a lot of camaraderie with her coworkers. When she switched over to the dredging and marine construction industry, she found it to be very similar: demanding, diverse. Carol joined JT Cleary Inc. in 2014 to help build their dredging division, and she is now involved in both the dredging and marine construction divisions. Her role involves expanding their client base and markets, developing strategic relationships and goals, managing pursuits, public relations, and marketing initiatives.



*“Measure your progress from where you started, not on how far you still have to go”
- Carol Shobrook*

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Carol Shobrook

Current Job: Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing, JT Cleary Inc.

Women of WEDA (WoW) asked Carol some questions in order to get to know her, and her story better:

WoW: Who are some women in your field that you look to for inspiration?

CS: Judith Powers, the founder of IDR, is someone I've always admired. One of my earliest WEDA memories is of Judith being awarded Dredger of the Year. I've come to know several women in WEDA who I think are very inspirational.

WoW: Career and/or life advice for other women?

CS: Value the friendships you make along the way.

WoW: Are you involved with any other careers, side projects or organizations?

CS: I attend quarterly meetings of the Council for Dredging and Marine Construction Safety. It's a great organization (cdmcs.org).

WoW: How have your past professional and academic experiences and lessons (in particular, ones you obtained during your time in the CIA) prepared you for the work you do today? How have they not prepared you?

CS: I was posted overseas for a number of years, which opened my eyes to different cultures and ways of thinking. My work involved recruitment and also management of field assets. The work could be very demanding and diverse, and there was a lot of camaraderie. I find the dredging and marine construction industry to be very similar in that way. Each project is a new challenge, requiring fresh ideas.

WoW: What would you say is your biggest career milestone to date and why?

CS: Serving on the WEDA Board feels like a milestone to me. When I joined WEDA many years ago, I never imagined that I would have that opportunity. It's an organization that I care a lot about.

WoW: How would you say being a woman has affected your professional experience? What can we do to create more equal, uplifting spaces for women in your industry?

CS: Starting my career in a very male-dominated field meant figuring out a lot of things for myself. Now, much later, I realize all the little things people (men and women) did that helped me along the way. Being a mentor can really make a difference. If you have a chance to help someone you think has promise, regardless of their gender, give it a try. Mentoring can be as simple as writing a letter of recommendation or helping someone see their potential.



WoW: What do you see for the future of our group?

CS: WoW is a great way to meet newcomers to WEDA and to catch up with friends. I'm interested in what women are working on in the dredging industry.

WoW: Where can we find you on social media and/or contact you via email or otherwise?

CS: The quickest way to reach me is via email (c.shobrook@jtcleary.com) or LinkedIn.

Carol is the Secretary for the WEDA Board of Directors. If you see her at any of the WEDA conferences, be sure to say "Hello!"