

Member of the Month by Ellen R. Cohen

Nicole Goharian

What happens when you lose essential data on your computer? Depending on whether or not you have utilized back-up technology, this can be either an annoyance or a crisis. If you're lucky, you know someone like Nicole Goharian, who can recover lost data and solve many other computer-related problems.

Five years ago, Nicole founded Applied Technology Resources, doing business for the past three years as Fast-teks On-site Computer Services. Fast-teks is a national company with over 200 franchises in the U.S. and Canada. Nicole serves as the Area Director for the Bethesda branch of Fast-teks, which helps clients in Southern Montgomery County, in addition to surrounding areas in DC and Northern VA.

Fast-teks offers on-site PC and Mac troubleshooting; virus, worm and spyware removal; DSL and cable set-up; wireless networking; support for small business; website development; data back-up recovery; preventive maintenance agreements and more.

"I like utilizing cost-effective solutions and technology to help clients resolve computer problems and I love to see their expressions when we recover essential data or solve their computer problems" says Nicole, describing how rewarding she finds her work.

Nicole has 25 years' experience in her industry. After receiving her BS degree from Syracuse University and her MS from George Washington University (both in computer science), she started as a programmer analyst and eventually worked for large and small companies doing computer programming, systems analysis, program management and oversight of large government contracts. She has had a great deal of experience with many types of businesses. Now she focuses on vendor relationships, consulting and business development. She is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP) and recently received her Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL V3) certificate. Her company has partner relationships with Dell, Microsoft and other software providers.

A WBO member for three years, Nicole currently serves on the board as communications chair and also edits our publication, *The Networker*. Commenting about WBO, Nicole says, "I learn a great deal from the programs and I have met some really fantastic women in diverse fields. I like the fact that not everyone is involved in technology."

Nicole came to the DC metro area in the early 1980s and has lived in Virginia and Maryland. When she is not working, she enjoys traveling with her family, skiing, dancing, playing tennis and cheering for the Syracuse basketball team and the Washington Redskins.

If you need help with computer issues, visit the website at www.fastteks.com or call Fast-teks at (301) 765-7655 to schedule an appointment. Nicole's Fast-teks technicians are all certified (A+ and/or Microsoft certification); they go through an extensive background check before they are hired and are fully insured when they go out on jobs to assist clients. Nicole's direct phone number is (301) 765-0227. She can also be reached via email at ngoharian@fastteks.com.

Ellen R. Cohen is a free-lance writer and editor whose "editorial advertising" helps her clients advertise their goods and services in a variety of ways. She can be reached at (301) 984-7444.