

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION

# BRIDGES

QUAD CITY CHAPTER 50

August 2009

## OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT:

◆ Jennifer Walker, Missman Stanley & Associates

### PAST PRESIDENT:

◆ Mary Oetzmann, Gierke-Robinson

### PRESIDENT ELECT:

◆ Marilyn Burke-Knutsen, Seiffert Lumber

### VICE PRESIDENT:

◆ Joyce Marinaccio, KJWW Engineering

### SECRETARY:

◆ Kendra Marinaccio, Landmark Engineering Group

### TREASURER:

◆ Sherri Fleming, Hawkeye Paving

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- ◆ Gina Jackson, Builders Sales & Service Company
- ◆ Rhonda Osbourne, Scholtz Gowey Gere Marolf Architects
- ◆ Deb Swift, KJWW Engineering
- ◆ Judy Thomas, Valley Construction

## CONTACT US

### E-MAIL:

NAWICQC50@hotmail.com

### WEBSITE:

WWW.NAWICQC.ORG

## **PRESIDENT'S NOTES**

The Lorraine D. Wright Construction Awards are right around the corner (August 13th)! The awards committee (especially Deb Swift) have been working very hard behind the scenes to make sure our event is a success. This is NAWIC Chapter #50's time to shine!

All members - please serve as ambassadors of NAWIC by welcoming the people you see at the entrance, mingle with, or sit with. Wear your nametags! Some of our scholarship recipients may be in attendance, too. Please introduce yourself and congratulate them! The scholarship committee plans to pair each student up with a NAWIC member who can encourage them to meet some local contacts. If you are interested in serving in this role, please contact Pam Keefe.

Lastly, please turn in your registration forms ASAP, and continue to prod your colleagues to consider joining us. The cocktail hour is a prime venue for networking within our industry. Are your company's marketing/decision-makers going to be there? You can guarantee your colleagues that they will not be disappointed!

Sincerely,  
Jennifer

**CONSTRUCTION AWARDS  
BANQUET  
AUGUST 13  
(details page 2)**

# MEETING INFORMATION

## AUGUST:

No General Meeting (see below)

### LORRAINE D. WRIGHT CONSTRUCTION AWARDS BANQUET

**Date:** August 13

**Place:**

Radisson Hotel (Davenport, IA)

**Time:**

6:00 Cocktails

7:00 Dinner and Awards Presentation

**Cost:**

\$37.00 per person

**RSVP:**

To Cathy Long, Swanson Construction  
Company, 563-332-7418 (or e-mail  
cathy@swansonbuilt.com)

**RSVP DEADLINE:** July 30

### SCHOLARSHIP AUCTION

Need a change of ATTITUDE? Then change  
your LATITUDE! Chart your course to

41.47° N / 90.57° W

Relax - enjoy a little "ISLAND TIME" (Rock  
Island that is)

Yah Mon! A TROPICAL ESCAPE is awaiting  
you.

**Friday November 6**

Holiday Inn, Rock Island, IL

6 PM Umbrella Drinks

7 PM Cuisine

8 PM Live Treasure Hunt

### AUGUST BIRTHDAY

8-1 Jean McAdam

8-9 Judi McDowell

8-13 Marilyn Burke-Knutsen

8-28 Rhonda Osbourne

### AUGUST ANNIVERSARY

1997 Kit Vargas

# PLAN AHEAD

## SAVE THE DATE:

September 3, 2009 -- Founder's Day Meeting

November 6, 2009 -- Scholarship Auction

## FUTURE MEETINGS:

September 3: Founder's Day

October 1: possible tour of the QCHBA  
green home being built locally

November: no general meeting due to  
Auction

December 3: Holiday Event

## REMINDERS

If you forget your name tag at a meeting, the  
fine is \$0.50 payable to our Chapter. If you  
need a replacement name tag, please contact  
Kit Vargas.

# COMMITTEE NEWS

## MEMBERSHIP

### ANOTHER RUN FOR THE ROSES -- NewWIC for NAWIC

Here's your chance to help yourself while you help our chapter. Members will be eligible for a gift card drawing according to the number of new members they recruit! You will also receive an applique to be worn with your name tag and recognition in the newsletter!

Recruit:

1-3 new members for a chance to win a \$25 gift card- rose bud level  
4-6 new members for a chance to win a \$50 gift card- open rose level  
7+ members will give you a chance to win a \$75 gift card- bouquet level

WAIT! Rewards for your efforts don't end here! You could be eligible to win one of two \$10 gift cards!! If you are eligible for one of the three categories above, but your name isn't drawn, it will go into the \$10 gift card drawing. So you still have another chance to win!!

This opportunity starts with any new member who joins in the 2008-2009 NAWIC year thanks to your efforts! Drawings will be held in September 2009.

Also, if you bring a potential member to a regular monthly dinner meeting, her meal is FREE! (Just remember, she would have to be a potential member, not a newly recruited member.)

## CONSTRUCTION AWARDS

The Construction Awards Banquet will be [Thursday, August 13, 2009](#) at the Radisson in Davenport. More information on sheet 2.

## SCHOLARSHIP AUCTION

YAH MON! The auction is going to be a "Tropical Escape" this year! Keep those summer clothes handy for some "Island Time" on [Friday, November 6th](#). Got any tropical decorations? We're gathering palm trees, grass skirts etc. Contact a committee member if you can help us out!

The \$5 raffle has been announced and it's all about "CASH". That's right - for a \$5 chance, you could win \$500! That's some serious STIMULUS CASH! Your tickets are in the mail - let me know when you need more!

Meeting minutes with more details of our last meeting will be emailed to the membership. Everyone is invited to planning meetings. For more information, contact Denise Spindel.

See Sheet 2 for event information.

## WEBSITE

If you notice any dead links or pages not directed to the correct address, please notify Jennifer Walker.

The website has been updated. Take a look at the changes.

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

The Chapter is planning another Habitat work night this year. Each person attending will need a new liability waiver signed and returned to Jennifer. Jennifer can e-mail you the form if you are interested. [The next date has not been set, please stay tuned, or contact Jennifer for more information.](#)

## FRIENDSHIP

Birthday cards were sent to Meda Keeney, Denise Spindel, Joyce Marinaccio, Carol Curry, and Debbie Miller. Anniversary cards were sent to Carol Uhr, Debbie Miller, and Patty Denner.

Sympathy card was sent to Ethel Boggness.

Thank you cards were sent to Marcie Boyle and Marilyn Burke-Knutsen for the July meeting, and Greg Ward at Stetson for the June meeting.

If anyone knows of members who are sick, please contact Debbie Miller so get-well cards can be sent.

[Generic birthday, anniversary, get-well, thinking of you, and thank you cards are always welcome for the Friendship Committees use.](#)

## PUBLIC RELATIONS

Press release was sent out for the Construction Awards Banquet.

If there is anything that you would like sent out, please contact Rhonda Osbourne.

## NEWSLETTER

The newsletter is put together by Kendra Marinaccio. If you have any committee news, comments, or anything you would like added to the newsletter, please e-mail Kendra at [k.marinaccio@landgroup.biz](mailto:k.marinaccio@landgroup.biz).

# NEWS YOU CAN USE

## 2009-2010 NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Robin Fulton Meyer, CIT  
President-Elect: Debra M. Gregoire, CIT  
Vice-President: Judy DeWeese, CIT  
Secretary: Shirley S. Horne, CIT  
Treasurer: Cathy Johnsen, CDS, CIT  
Immediate Past President: Pat J. McDonald, CCA, CIT

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR

The Chapter is in need of a new Membership Committee Chair for the 2009-2010 year. If you are interested, please contact Marilyn.

## IT'S MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!!!!

It's that time of year that the membership renewals will start arriving.

Members with an email listed in the NAWIC Database will be emailed a link to renew online by the end of July (a paper invoice will not be mailed). Members who do not have an email address will be sent a renewal in the mail by the end of July.

If your email address changes, please be sure to update your information by visiting <http://www.nawic.org>>Member Sign In> Member Center> Update Your Info.

Renewals must be received (NOT POSTMARKED BY) in the NAWIC office by October 1, a \$25 late fee will be assessed.

## A GREAT LOSS

The brother of Ethel Boggues passed away recently. Ethel, please know that the thoughts and prayers of our Chapter are with you and your family.

## LOOKING FOR INFORMATION

If you are in possession of any historical records (ie minutes, newsletters, photos) please contact Kendra to include them in our records updating.

## QUAD CITY HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

The QCHBA is sponsoring a "pack the house" night at Modern Woodman Park to watch the River Bandits play. [Tickets are FREE!](#) The game is on August 4, 2009. If you are interested in tickets, please contact Marilyn or go to the QCHBA Office.

## CHANGE OF MEMBER INFORMATION

Kit Vargas is leaving Lafarge NA. Please send any e-mails to her home at [dott2307@q.com](mailto:dott2307@q.com) effective immediately.

General Meeting Agenda  
NAWIC Quad City Chapter 50  
July 9, 2009 – Marilyn Burke-Knutsen's Home (Wine Tasting)

**Program**

Wine Tasting (Marcie Boyle, The Traveling Vineyard)

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 PM.

**Invocation**

Invocation was done by Jennifer Walker.

**Roll Call, Introduction of Guests, Name Badge fines (50¢)**

1. Members in attendance were: Debbie Miller, Deb Swift, Marilyn Burke-Knutsen, Kendra Marinaccio, Gina Jackson, Jennifer Walker, Mary Crapnell, and Sherri Fleming
2. Guests in attendance were: Marcie Boyle of The Traveling Vineyard, Kathy Ruud friend of Deb Miller, Francis and Barb family of Marilyn that provided the food at this meeting

**Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting**

1. Correction: Cathy L., not Jean M., passed e-mailed scholarship applications to Pam
2. Minutes approved with correction and will be filed

**Treasurer's Report**

1. Money will transfer from Scholarship Money Market to Scholarship Checking to pay for scholarship recipients
2. Report filed for audit

**Correspondence**

1. Incoming
  - a. Newsletters (Habitat, Churches United, Illowa, Omaha, Chicago-Metro, Rockford, Region 13)
  - b. Membership inquiry from Amy Carroll, Ryan Companies (via Deb Swift)
  - c. Thank you from Angela Dearing (united Way) for letting her speak at our 6/4 meeting
  - d. Chapter dues update form needed
  - e. Chapter officer update form needed
  - f. Reminder from Robin Clarke to copy her on chapter dues update, officer update, credentials
  - g. E-mail from Darby Anderson (Cedar Rapids/Iowa City Chapter) – wants to meet up with out delegates at the Annual Meeting (her first time). Passed onto out delegates.
  - h. Sisters in the Building Trades – mentor training
  - i. National Scholarship Providers Association (NSPA) conference notice
  - j. Approved Chapter Standing Rules, signed by National
  - k. City of Davenport Disparity Study findings (let Jennifer know if you'd like a copy)
  - l. Chapter officer update form submitted (still need to inform National of our new Membership Chairperson)—we are still in need of a Membership Chair. If you are interested, contact Marilyn

2. Outgoing
  - a. Chapter dues update form sent to National & Robin Clarke by Jennifer
  - b. Annual Meeting voting credentials certificate sent to National & Robin Clarke by Jennifer
  - c. Notice to out Annual Meeting delegates: SOX requires reimbursement, upfront payment no longer permitted
  - d. Press release: our slate of new board members (anyone see it published?)
  - e. Jennifer spoke w/ our new member Robin Blackman. National misguided her, she transferred her membership to Chicago-Metro. We will be returning her Chapter fee to National.
  - f. Membership packets to: Missy Gasiowrski (Hodge Construction), Amy Carroll (Ryan), Laurie Steele
  - g. Website updates: Construction Awards registration form, updated SGGM's name, date/location of Auction, added AIA to affiliated organizations
  - h. Cathy spoke to a CSI rep: no CSI scholarship presentation at Construction Awards
  - i. E-mail blast to members: passing of Ethel's brother. A card will be sent.

### **Unfinished Business**

1. Tax exemption number is pending. We hope to get it before 8/13 Construction Awards!
  - a. We received a letter in the mailbox the day of this meeting. Upon opening it, we found a letter stating the application is under review.
2. Sponsor solicitation for '09-'10.
  - a. The mailings and e-mails will be completed tomorrow.
3. Assembling history of board meeting minutes for scanning (SOX policy on record retention)
  - a. Kendra is scanning the information that we have and putting it all on disc for easier and safer storage. If you have any information, please forward it to Kendra.

### **New Business**

1. How can student networking be facilitated at the Construction Awards?
  - a. Brain storming ideas:
    - i. Every member present should introduce themselves and their company.
    - ii. New and experienced member should introduce them together
    - iii. Recipients should wear different nametags
    - iv. Have a half-page biography for the students with contact information (approximately two paragraphs with a picture)
    - v. No resumes on the tables. We should have separate table for resumes.
    - vi. Split students up with assigned seats in order to help mingling
2. When should we present scholarships in even-numbered years?
  - a. Brain storming ideas:
    - i. They could be awarded at the July meeting and have a tour, not just a speaker
    - ii. They could be awarded at the September meeting. It was mentioned that this would not be a good idea since the students would be in school.
3. Do we invite scholarship recipients/families to the Auction every year? Who pays?
  - a. A consensus at the meeting was that the recipient will be paid for and the family is not paid for at the Construction Awards.
  - b. A consensus of those present is that the recipients will be invited but not paid for to the Auction.

### **Committee Report Summary**

1. Four scholarship recipients were selected to receive \$2,000 each: Elyse Garlock, Sadie Schroeder, Jesse Cross, and Sonia Garcia (Pat Puestow recipient). These will be presented at our Construction Awards event. Please congratulate them at this event!
2. Two scholarship applicants had to be tossed out because they were student members of another NAWIC chapter (SOX: no member shall benefit...). Application to be updated.
3. Next Auction committee meeting is 7/13 at 5:30 at Quint Co.
4. Construction Awards committee busy confirming project involvement and contacting subs/suppliers without e-mail
5. Habitat volunteering – only Jennifer could make it. Day preference to try to do another?
  - a. Let Jennifer know if you are interested in helping.

### **Announcements**

1. Ethel's brother passed away this past Tuesday night. His funeral is Friday at 11:00 AM.
2. Turn in your employer appreciation forms to Mary C by 7/10!
3. Turn in your registration forms for the Construction Awards by 7/30! (on website, if needed)
  - a. We need to push the attendees numbers at the event
4. Next Meeting: September 3, 2009 – Founder's Day Celebration at the Outing Club, Davenport

### **50/50**

Mary Crapnell won \$5.00

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 PM.



# NAWIC

National Association of Women in Construction

Quad City Chapter #50  
P.O. Box 4936 • Davenport, Iowa 52808

## Celebrate Construction in the Quad Cities

The members of NAWIC Quad City Chapter #50 invite you to join us for the 2007-2008 Lorraine D. Wright Construction Awards banquet. This event will combine the presentation of the awards and the recognition of our chapter sponsors and member companies.

Your firm is associated with the construction of one or more of the projects nominated as a possible award recipient. NAWIC would be honored with the presence of members of your firm, spouses, and guests to help us make this event a celebration of the construction industry.

DATE: Thursday, August 13, 2009  
 PLACE: Radisson Hotel, Davenport, Iowa  
 TIME: 6:00 p.m. Cocktails  
 7:00 p.m. Dinner and Awards Presentation  
 COST: \$37.00 per person

Please return the reservation form below with your check made payable to:

NAWIC Chapter #50  
 P.O. Box 4936  
 Davenport, Iowa 52808-4936

Reservation deadline is **Thursday, July 30, 2009**. Please confirm your reservation by fax to Cathy Long, Swanson Construction Company, 563-332-7418 or by e-mail [cathy@swansonbuilt.com](mailto:cathy@swansonbuilt.com). We look forward to seeing you on August 13<sup>th</sup>.

Detach and mail

### NAWIC CONSTRUCTION AWARDS

No. of Reservations \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$37.00 each      Amount Enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please print names of those attending:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

For vegetarian diet request, please call Cathy Long @ (563) 332-4859

**NAWIC REGION 13**  
**MINI-CONFERENCE**  
**Sioux Falls, SD**  
**July 11, 2009**

The meeting was held in the community room at The Bluffs. Members in attendance were Loretta Hammerquist and Mary Johnson from Black Hills #269, Nan Young from Gr. Omaha #116, Amy Berg and Dawn Wiedewitsch from Fargo-Moorhead #246 and Gaila Schreurs, Amy Christoffels, Mandy Huber, Carole Lee and Dawn Aspaas from Gr. Sioux Falls #237.

The morning began with a light breakfast. The meeting was conducted by Amy Berg from Fargo-Moorhead #246. The meeting was an informal discussion of ideas.

**Membership-**

Recruiting-The golf outing in Sioux Falls has led to a few potential members. We need to let prospective members know what they can get out of joining. NAWIC can be a great resource and networking opportunity. We should be giving the guests a packet with a brochure. It is a good idea to follow up after the meeting. Sending them a newsletter is also a good idea. It was suggested that when you send it to email it to yourself and then blind copy everyone else to keep the email addresses private. The members from Fargo brought an ad that they had placed in their local home magazine. The price was reasonable and they are waiting to get some responses. It is said that it takes five times of contact with someone to get them to join.

Orientation & Involvement-Most chapters are orientating the new members. The main thing is to get them involved right away. Be sure to have face to face contact with them to make it more personable. We should make the networking more prominent at the meetings. Also, it was suggested to have the members talk more about what they do. This could even be a meeting program. This way new members feel like they are getting more out of their membership.

Retention-We talked about the idea to give the person who gets a new member in an award for the member staying in the organization, not just for joining.

**Professional Education-**

Meeting programs- We talked about smaller groups and if it is harder to get speakers. The members felt that presenters would rather talk to a smaller group. It is more one on one and less formal. We could also partner with other organizations for a presentation. The idea of a show and tell of your company as a program was suggested. Many members have learned a lot from the others in their own chapters.

Education-Scholarships were discussed at length. You can not make the check out to the student. It needs to be made payable to the school. Even if you have a presentation and give the check to the student, it can't be in their name. You could give a certificate instead and issue the check to the school later. An

immediately family member of a member of the chapter can not receive a chapter scholarship. You can give the money to the school and give them requirements that you want and they can award the money. The judging of the scholarship winners within the chapter can be difficult. There should be some guidelines or rules established. All of the committees need to have a process and write it down. This seemed to be the theme of the day. It was also suggested to advertise the winners to get our name out there.

#### **NEF-**

Everyone expressed their feelings on the NEF website. It needs much improvement. Amy Berg serves on the NEF board and told us that they will be working to improve it.

Block Kids- The rules for this program are very clear and some participants and chapters do not pay close enough attention to them. This may disqualify someone from moving to the next level. We were also told that once someone has won at the national level, they can not compete in the Block Kids program again. The amounts that national is awarding has gone down also. The judging for this program can sometimes be difficult. It works best to have the same judges scoring the same groups of kids. This makes it fair for everyone. Otherwise the judging methods are not very clear.

CDD- this is CADD Design Drafting. None of the chapters in attendance are doing this. It is a program for the high school students. They design a building. It's very difficult and takes lots of time. Sioux Falls is building a new tech high school. We felt that this would be a good opportunity to get this program going.

Build Design Program-The program needs to be right in the schools. This is very difficult to get accomplished. Therefore, the program just hasn't taken off.

Garden Shed Program- This is for younger kids. The Black Hills chapter had camps for girls in 2 different age groups. They broke it into two sessions, one for preparation and one to build it. They had success with it. There was discussion about how it works. Some parts were difficult for the kids.

Adult Education Programs- We talked about the CIT program. The Black Hills chapter took the test and they found that group study worked best. They incorporated it into their monthly meetings. The cost is \$180. This is for the book and one test. There are people that do not pass the test the first time. It was mentioned that you should go by what is in the book and not what you may have learned while working in the construction industry. You need to have a moderator give the test and they need to be registered. They are also starting a new class called Construction Bookkeeping 101. This is supposed to be a very basic overview. Most members thought the Job Costing part would be very helpful. Most people coming into the industry are not familiar with that. Many felt that the class would be beneficial to anyone to learn a little about accounting

to help in their personal finances too. The price for the class has not been determined yet.

### **Ways & Means/Budget-**

Fundraising- Most chapters are making their money with auctions or golf outings. Donations for Block Kids can bring in good money too. It was suggested that you should find the one thing that works for your chapter and stick to that. That way you are not constantly asking the same businesses for donations.

Budget- We talked a lot about the cost of convention. Many felt this year's national convention was going to be costly. Some of the chapters are paying for more of a member's expenses so that someone from the chapter will be able to go. The money should be spent as long as it is in the budget. It should go to the voting delegates first. You could send one person and that could revitalize the whole chapter.

### **Newsletters/Web Sites/Marketing-**

Newsletters-Everyone is doing this. Most are going out electronically. They should be in PDF form.

Websites- Omaha chapter has one and Sioux Falls is just getting theirs started. We decided that less is more when it comes to websites. Keeping it simple is the key. The biggest concern was keeping it up to date.

Marketing- The main thing is to keep getting our name out there. Sometimes constant little things can be most effective. Some ideas mentioned were floats in parades, booths at home shows or other conventions, or hanging a brochure at your local exchange. Any sort of media attention is great. It is usually free and most people pay attention to those things.

### **New Business-**

We decided to continue the meeting next year. It will be held July 16-17, 2010 in Sioux Falls. Dawn Aspaas offered to let us use the community room again. The agenda will be handled by Mpls/St. Paul #164. This will also be Jazz Fest weekend in Sioux Falls. This would be a fun activity for the members to attend. However, hotels will be a little harder to find. Dawn told us that she does have room for some out of town guests at her home.

Submitted by;  
Amy Christoffels  
Gr. Sioux Falls Chapter #237

# SPONSORS

## GOLD SPONSORS:

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Illowa Construction Labor and Management Council  
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