

# On The Level

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION  
BLUEGRASS CHAPTER #367, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

## Tuesday, December 1st – Holiday Social & 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

December,  
2009

Thank you to all members who attended our Holiday Social & 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at Boo & Millard Blakey's house! We raised \$135 for the Lexington Humane Society – THANKS NAWIC CHAPTER!!



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## R.S.V.P. INFORMATION

**Where:** Perspectives Painting, 352 Longview Plaza, Lexington (Southland Shopping Area)  
**When:** Thursday, January 21, 2010  
5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Networking & Registration  
6:00 p.m. Dinner  
6:30 p.m. – Business Meeting  
7:30 p.m. – Board Meeting  
**Cost:** Meal & Drinks to be provided by Perspectives  
Reservations required. Contact Susan Cox, [scox@messer.com](mailto:scox@messer.com) by Jan. 18th  
**Remember, A Reservation Made Is A Reservation Paid.**

## Letter from the President



We had a FUN party last week. Thank you, Boo and Millard, for opening your home to us and for being such wonderful hosts for our December social and 8<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration for the Bluegrass Chapter. Also thank you to the board members for bringing food and to everyone who came and participated in the good time. I think Joan's husband may have gotten the best "it" gift.



We missed you members that weren't able to join us. I sincerely hope you can make it to our next outing which Chairperson Grace Northcutt is planning for W.I.C. (Women in Construction) week in March. Between work, family, and all other obligations we have it is great to take a few hours just to laugh and talk. Supposedly laughter helps one lose weight! I've notice members looking thinner. It must be those great antics I read before the meetings start.

J



Our new bride, vice president, and construction professional education chair Stacia (Chenoweth) Sharff between florist arrangements and other wedding details, has lined up several great speakers and programs for 2010.



So when you get your new calendars for the new year mark the third Thursday of every month as a NAWIC event night. Then check the newsletter each month to see if that month's meeting is at the Marriott or a tour. There is something for everyone. I've got to brag on our newsletter editor and director Susan Cox. I've threatened to fire her if she deletes this from my letter which wasn't very smart of me since she does such a great job and it's a volunteer position. However Susan deserves much Whoo-Hoo for her achievement of passing the 5<sup>th</sup> CCA exam. CCA stands for the "Certified Construction Associate" which is an advanced, six-part, self study course in construction

terminology, procedures and processes. Susan has studied and learned along with being a full-time Messer employee and new mommy. CCA encompasses the following 6-parts:

- Business Analysis
- Construction Environs
- Construction Principles
- Effective Communication
- Labor Relations
- Management Techniques

Yea Susan!!! When she passes she will be joining a small number, out of the approximate 4000 members, to achieve this certificate.

"Thank you" to Christine Parsons for putting together membership recruiting folders. Not only from a business aspect, but on a personal level, how unfortunate it would be if I hadn't met many of our great members. Without NAWIC I would've probably never had the pleasure of getting to know them. Just think how many more women are eligible to join us and the benefit we can all gain. See Christine if you need one.



Merry Christmas all! Enjoy the holidays, the hustle and bustle, family and friends and most of all the "Reason for the Season"! Elaine

### HAPPY NAWIC ANNIVERSARY

#### Celebrating their involvement in NAWIC!

Jeannie Anness – 8 yrs	Elaine Boyd – 8 yrs
Kim Hellmueller – 8 yrs	Joan Markwell – 2 yrs
Faye Miller – 8 yrs	Christine Parsons – 8 yrs
Melanie Roederer – 1 yr	Barb Sharp – 8 yrs
Kista Thomas – 8 yrs	Anna Wientjes – 8 yrs

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS

## Thursday, January 21, 2010

Showroom tour of Perspectives Painting. NAWIC member, Melanie Roederer, will provide us with a tour of the showroom and talk about the different products that Perspectives carries. Melanie will also give a demonstration to show how they can design window treatments for customers online. Come & celebrate Perspectives Painting 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!!

## Thursday, February 18, 2010

Region 4 Director candidates – Melanie Myers & Candy Riley – will be visiting our chapter meeting and will discuss their future plans and goals for our chapter. Be sure to attend and become as informed as possible as our chapter decides which of these outstanding ladies can lead our region.

## Thursday, March 18, 2010

Mr. Chauncy Davis, American Arbitrators Association. Specific topic still to be determined.

## Thursday, April 15, 2010

Tour of Arlington School project. NAWIC will spotlight WS Construction.

## Other Dates to Remember:

- Ø Jan/Feb 2010 Block Kids (more details to follow!)
- Ø 3/8/10 WIC WEEK & Spring Social
- Ø April 9-11<sup>th</sup> – Forum 2010 Akron, OH
- Ø 4/24/09 – Miss Fix-it #4 (aka MF14)
- Ø JUNE 2010 – Summer Social (Date & location TBD)
- Ø Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> – 55<sup>th</sup> National Convention, Louisville, KY



## Girls Can Too!

Helping girls explore and experience careers in construction is the goal of the "Girls Can Too". Created through a partnership of our NAWIC chapter #367 and Bluegrass Community & Technical College (BCTC) the program is targeted at middle and high school girls. The program is free and open to the public will take place on BCTC Leestown Campus, 164 Opportunity Way in Lexington on the second Saturday of each month from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Projects and take home kits are made available to the girls through a grant from the American Association of University Women. Calling all NAWIC volunteers!! Please let Laura Lynch know if you are able to participate in this Spring's Girls Can Too project. Her schedule will fill up fast; now is the time to share your knowledge with girls in the community so they can choose a career in construction! You can contact Laura at [laura.lynch@kctcs.edu](mailto:laura.lynch@kctcs.edu)

### December Dates to Remember:

12/1 Rosa Parks Day  
 12/8 Take It In The Ear Day  
 12/13 International Children's Day  
 12/18 Bake Cookies Day  
 12/25 Christmas Day!!  
 12/31 New Years Eve

### December is:

- [Read A New Book Month](#)
- [Human Rights Month](#)
- [Write To A Friend Month](#)



## SAFETY ZONE

**Holiday decorations** can pose special poisoning hazards. In homes with small children, take special care to avoid decorations that are sharp or breakable, keep trimmings with small removable parts out of the reach of children to avoid the child swallowing or inhaling small pieces, and avoid trimmings that resemble candy or food that may tempt a child to eat them. The following tips may also help save a life:

1. **Bubbling Christmas tree lights** may contain very toxic chemicals that can be life threatening.
2. **Artificial snow** should always be applied with adequate ventilation. Inhaling the propellants and solvents from the can or spraying the aerosol near the eyes can cause injury. Use spray snow according to directions and in properly ventilated areas.
3. **Potpourri** smells good and looks pretty but many contain irritating oils that can cause allergic rashes or vomiting and diarrhea.
4. Use care with "**fire salts**," which produce colored flames when thrown on wood fires. They contain heavy metals that can cause intense gastrointestinal irritation and vomiting if eaten. Keep them away from children.
5. **Lamp oils** usually come in bright attractive colors. Even though most lamp oil bottles have child safety caps, most lamps that the oils are poured into do not. Lamp oil can get into a young child's lungs if swallowed and can be deadly. Keep oil lamps away from children. Remember, child safety caps only slow children down.

**Seasonal Holiday plants** should be kept out of a child or pet's reach. The following recommendations can enhance holiday safety:

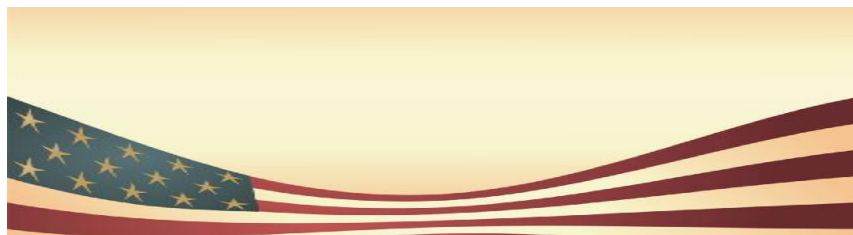
1. Identify and mark all plants in your home. To determine if a plant is a poisoning danger call the Oklahoma Poison Control Center or the local Oklahoma State University Extension in your county.
2. Take care in decorating with plants. Mistletoe, holly berries, and Jerusalem cherries can be poisonous if large amounts are swallowed. The berries and leaves of holly and mistletoe can cause persistent nausea, diarrhea, abdominal pain, and weakness. Any plant can be a choking hazard.



## LEGISLATIVE

One of NAWIC's Objectives is to provide members an awareness of the legislative process and legislation as it relates to the construction industry. The current health care legislation under consideration will affect everyone. Are you informed about how it might make a difference in your life? And do you know how to contact your Congressman and Senator? Check out these websites:

[www.congress.org](http://www.congress.org)  
[www.votesmart.org](http://www.votesmart.org)  
[www.opencongress.org](http://www.opencongress.org)  
[www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov)  
[www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov)  
[www.politics1.com](http://www.politics1.com)



## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### GUESS WHO THIS MEMBER IS:

You can find this member and the company on a web page and on Facebook.

She joined NAWIC in 2004.

She has lived in Vermont, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, California, New York, and Connecticut before calling Lexington, KY home.

She has 3 grandsons and formerly had Irish Setters as part of the family.

A little know and surprising fact is she has published a pictorial cookbook!

E-mail [eboyd@clayingels.com](mailto:eboyd@clayingels.com) with your guess and you could win 1 free raffle ticket at January's meeting!!



## Nawic national officer s

### PRESIDENT

Robin Fulton-Meyer, CIT  
On Your Case  
[Robinmeyer@verizon.net](mailto:Robinmeyer@verizon.net)

### PRESIDENT-ELECT

Debbie Gregoire, CIT  
The Brewer-Garret Co.  
[dgregoire@brewer-garrett.com](mailto:dgregoire@brewer-garrett.com)

### VICE-PRESIDENT

Judy DeWeese, CIT  
Mauze Construction Group  
[judenawic@aol.com](mailto:judenawic@aol.com)

### SECRETARY

Shirley Horne, CIT  
Hay Construction Company, Inc.  
[shorne@hayconstruction.com](mailto:shorne@hayconstruction.com)



### TREASURER

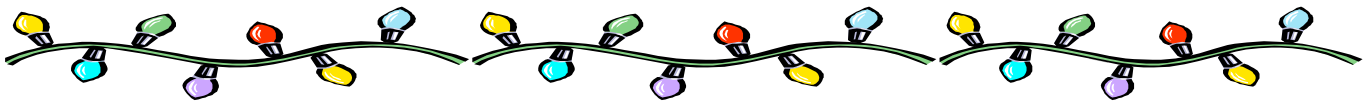
Cindy Johnsen, CDS, CIT  
Granite Construction Company  
[Cindy.johnsen@gcinc.com](mailto:Cindy.johnsen@gcinc.com)

### IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Pat McDonald, CCA, CIT  
STI Trucking  
[nawicpat@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nawicpat@sbcglobal.net)

### REGION 4 DIRECTOR

Jan Sullivan  
Garmong Construction Services  
[jpsu@verizon.net](mailto:jpsu@verizon.net)



## COMMITTEE NOTES

Membership: Chair – Christine Parsons. Goals – triple the membership over the next five years!! That means we ALL need to recruit, recruit, recruit!! Invite women you work with to the next meeting!! Membership is currently at 29 thanks to our newest member, Jessica Walker!! Jessica works at Murphy-Graves Architects and has been attending our meeting as a guest for about a year. Please welcome Jessica when you see her at our next meeting!!

\*\*You can invite potential member guests to attend our meetings at no cost again this year, so invite those women not yet involved in NAWIC and we'll enhance their success too. The more members we have, the more opportunity there is to learn from each other.

PR/Marketing: Chair – Susan Cox. Goals – get our name out there as much as possible!! Do you belong to another organization that we could trade a newsletter page with? Do you have marketing ideas? Send them to Susan right away!!

Construction Profession & Education: Chair – Stacia (Chenoweth) Sharff. Goals – provide educational & entertaining speakers/joint meetings/tours for our members every month. Send speaker ideas to Stacia & the CP&E committee right away!!

Ways & Means (aka MF14): Chairs – Mary Gail Engle & Stacia Sharff. Goals – FUNDRAISING Miss Fix-It #4 will be held April 24' 2010. If you are interested in helping the committee, please let Stacia or Mary Gail know.

Have you thought about pursuing a certification via NEF (NAWIC Education Foundation)? Below is information regarding all three certifications currently offered by NEF.



## NAWIC Education Foundation



*Educating the Construction Industry Today . . . and Tomorrow.*



The **Construction Industry Technician (CIT)** is a self-paced, home study program. Passing an examination at the end of the course establishes mastery of the material and upon successful completion of the program, the participant will receive the **Construction Industry Technician Certifications**. This certification acknowledges the accomplishment of attaining a higher professional level in the construction industry.



The **Certified Construction Associate (CCA)** Program is an advanced, six-part, self study course in construction terminology, procedures and processes. NAWIC Education Foundation (NEF) requires the program be completed in three (3) years. Participants study at their own pace but must pass all six parts within three (3) years with 2 possible one year extensions. Extensions must be approved by the NEF Executive Committee. After successfully passing certification exams in all six parts, participants receive Certified Construction Associate certificates, pins and are entitled to use the letters, CCA after their names.



**Construction Document Specialist (CDS)**. This book deals with interpreting information conveyed from the architect/engineer to the contractor by way of a legal document and with implementing that fundamental understanding. It discusses the many components of the legal agreement that binds the parties in a construction project: working drawings, specifications, and contract requirements of the Project Manual. A comprehensive understanding of the project's construction documents is necessary to prepare an estimate for submitting a bid and to prepare a project schedule for controlling costs after the contract is awarded.

**CERTIFIED CONSTRUCTION BOOKKEEPER (CCB)** This certification course will teach participants how to set up and operate a simple bookkeeping system for a construction company and work in both simple and complex bookkeeping systems as either a bookkeeper or under a bookkeeper in one part of the system. Whether you aspire to be an accounts payable clerk or a full charge bookkeeper, you will understand how to perform your job by learning about the whole system of bookkeeping.

**Did you know that you can earn certifications from Clemson University through the NAWIC Education Foundation (NEF)? Adult education programs include Certified Construction Associate (CCA), Certified Construction Bookkeeper (CCB), Construction Document Specialist (CDS), and Construction Industry Technician (CIT). By taking these classes and passing the tests you can also earn CEU's. So how about it? Start expanding your knowledge today at [www.nawiceducation.org](http://www.nawiceducation.org) and enhance your success!**

# NAWIC WEBSITE INFORMATION

## Chapter Roster

All NAWIC members can go Online at <http://www.nawic.org> and download a current chapter or region roster. Here are the steps:

- Go to <http://www.nawic.org> > Member Log In > Member Center > Member Directory.
- Select “Chapter Name” or “Region Number” from the pull down menu.
- Select “Excel” as output.
- Select “Search.”
- The roster will open in Excel.
- To sort the data by columns: Highlight all the information, except the first two rows, containing merged cells. Select “Data” from the toolbar; then select “Sort.” Select the column by which you want to sort.

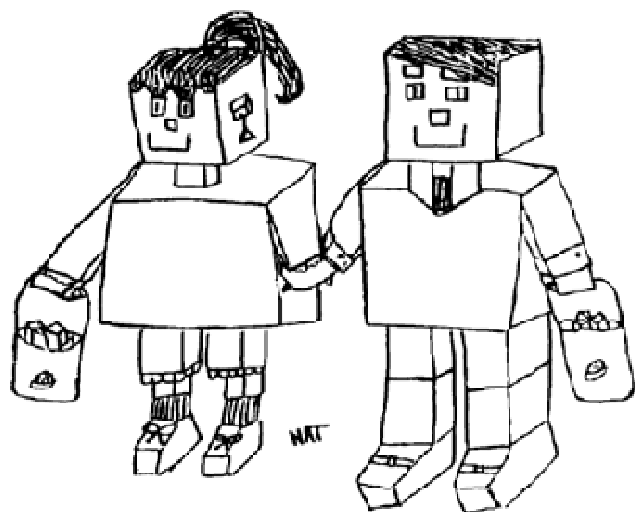
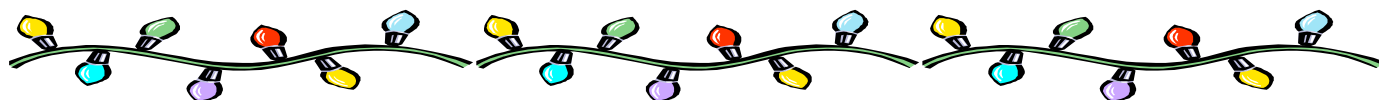
To save the document, input a file name, and then choose “Microsoft Office Excel Workbook” as the file type.

**Do you need to update your information on the National website? You can keep your information up-to-date by logging in to [www.nawic.org](http://www.nawic.org) à Member sign-in à Member Center à Update Your Info**

## NAWIC Online

NAWIC Online is a clearinghouse for Association information. By visiting [www.nawic.org](http://www.nawic.org), members can find out about upcoming events, learn about new member services and catch up on Association news. Banner and classified ads are available throughout the Web site to help market your company.

## WWW.NAWIC.ORG



The Bluegrass Chapter is planning to hold our 1<sup>st</sup> annual Block Kids event in late January or early February. So far we have had tremendous success in sponsorships – thank you to all who have donated so far!! The goal is to have a set date towards the end of the year and then start planning all the details. Currently, the Block Kids chair is Susan Cox; with a committee of Elaine Boyd, Kim Hellmueller & Stacia Sharff. If you are interested in being on the committee please let one of these ladies know. We will need lots of helping hands during the event, so please consider volunteering when the time comes.

**Bluegrass Chapter #367**  
[www.bgnawic.org](http://www.bgnawic.org)

**Region 4 – NAWIC's Core**  
[www.nawic4.org](http://www.nawic4.org)

**NAWIC National**  
[www.nawic.org](http://www.nawic.org)

**NAWIC Education  
 Foundation (NEF)**  
[www.nawiceducation.org](http://www.nawiceducation.org)

The Bluegrass  
 Chapter is on  
 Facebook!  
 Join our group!

## About Our Organization...

Since its founding, NAWIC, an international non-profit organization, has grown to a membership of 5,500 women with more than 179 chapters. In its 51 years of service to its members, NAWIC has advanced the causes of all women in construction whose careers range from business ownership to the skilled trades. With almost 900,000 women working in construction today, the industry is becoming more accepting of their non-traditional roles

### NAWIC's objectives are:

- To unite for the mutual benefit of the women who are actively engaged in the various phases of the construction industry.
- To promote cooperation, fellowship and a better understanding among members of the Association.
- To promote education and contribute to the betterment of the construction industry.
- To encourage women to pursue and establish careers in the construction industry.
- To provide members an awareness of the legislative process and legislation as it relates to the construction industry.

## Executive Board

President	Elaine Boyd	<a href="mailto:eboyd@clayingels.com">eboyd@clayingels.com</a>
Vice-President	Stacia Sharff	<a href="mailto:stacia@masonstructure.com">stacia@masonstructure.com</a>
Treasurer	Cindy Hiens	<a href="mailto:chiens@messer.com">chiens@messer.com</a>
Corresponding Sec.	Mary Gail Engle	<a href="mailto:mgengle@uky.edu">mgengle@uky.edu</a>
Recording Secretary	Grace Northcutt	<a href="mailto:gnorthcutt@messer.com">gnorthcutt@messer.com</a>
Director	Susan Cox	<a href="mailto:scox@messer.com">scox@messer.com</a>
Director	Faye Miller	<a href="mailto:fmiller@bbandt.com">fmiller@bbandt.com</a>
Director	Joan Markwell	<a href="mailto:joanemarkwell@yahoo.com">joanemarkwell@yahoo.com</a>
Membership Chair	Christine Parsons	<a href="mailto:parsons@parsonselectric.com">parsons@parsonselectric.com</a>
Finance Chair	Cindy Hiens	<a href="mailto:chiens@messer.com">chiens@messer.com</a>
C.P. & E Chair	Stacia Sharff	<a href="mailto:stacia@masonstructure.com">stacia@masonstructure.com</a>
PR/Marketing Chair	Susan Cox	<a href="mailto:scox@messer.com">scox@messer.com</a>
WIC Week	Grace Northcutt	<a href="mailto:gnorthcutt@messer.com">gnorthcutt@messer.com</a>
Newsletter Editor	Susan Cox	<a href="mailto:scox@messer.com">scox@messer.com</a>

