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2009

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION
Bluegrass Chapter #367, Lexington, Kentucky
www.bgnawic.org



Thursday, April 16, 2009 – Showroom Tour

Everyone wants to make the BEST first impression. It is said that within the first 3 seconds of an encounter, everything is evaluated, even at first glance. Once the first impression is made it is irreversible. The first thing people see upon entering your home, business, or construction project is the brick, windows, and the front door. Clay Ingels is the place to help you make the first impression to your customers and/or friends. Clay Ingels has opened their doors for us to tour their facility and check out the quality products and services they have to offer. So don't miss our April meeting!

Where: Clay Ingels, 914 Delaware Ave., Lexington
Elaine Boyd's Cell (859) 351-5532

When: Thursday, April 16, 2009
5:30 p.m. Networking & Nourishment
6:30 p.m. Program & Meeting
7:45 p.m. Board Meeting

Cost: FREE in April! (Thank you Clay Ingels!)

Reservations required. Contact Susan Cox,
scox@messer.com by April 13th @ noon!

****Please note the rsvp deadline is a day earlier. Because Clay Ingels is catering this meeting, we must know by 4/13 if you are coming. Even if you *think* you may attend, please let me know that as well. Thanks for your cooperation!****

Remember, A Reservation Made Is A Reservation Paid.



Letter From The President

APRIL BRINGS:

1. SPRING SHOWERS – *for May flowers*
2. KEENELAND – *always a fun time*
3. EASTER CELEBRATION – *more than pretty new dresses and bonnets*
4. TAX DEADLINE – *emptying of the checking and savings for some*
5. One month closer to FORUM – *exciting!*
6. AND a fun informative tour and dinner at Clay Ingels!!!!!!!!!!

Bill Chapman, owner of Clay Ingels, has graciously agreed to provide dinner to members and guests at this month's meeting Thursday, April 16th. Anna Wientjes and I look forward to showing the many, many options of not just brick and pavers but also a large variety of steel, fiberglass & wood doors, new and replacement window options, stair parts, columns, shutters, stone, etc. Place an order for something and you'll probably get a special "NAWIC" discount.

Susan Cox, Mary Gail Engle, Teri Fox, and Debra Shockley have agreed to be on the nominating committee to select the board for our next NAWIC year beginning October 1, 2009 to September 30, 2010. Ask any current or former board member about the responsibilities if you have any questions. I'm sure you will hear good things like "a feeling of accomplishment", "working w/great people", and "free training in areas of leadership and team building". I know I hesitated and had no plans of ever taking the president role. However, I truly have enjoyed the experience and am planning on running for president again for next year. There is no one more surprised than I am that I'm volunteering to do this. So consider surprising yourself and say yes when one of the ladies call you and ask if you are interested in being on the board. Seriously there are still grove marks in the tracks of my past years with NAWIC where I dug my heels in and said NOOOOOO..... yet here I am and willing to go another year. I'm encouraging you as I was encouraged for six years. The excellent teamwork and help from the members is what makes it doable and rewarding. I feel it will always be that way because we have such a great group of individuals in our chapter and in NAWIC regionally and nationally.

The city of Lexington is counting down the days to the World Equestrian Games in 2010. I'm going to start the countdown for FORUM. In writing this letter we are at **44** days away. Kim Hellmueller is daily receiving more and more registrations forms from other chapters. We have several members who are eligible for their registration of \$150 to be paid for by the chapter. All members are invited to attend however a few guidelines needed to be met for the chapter to pay. Please let me know if you would like to attend but you didn't meet all of the guidelines or if you or your company can not pay. I hope to see everyone's name on Kim's list. I guarantee you will find the event FUN, educational, and very worth your time. I'm so sure of it I'll treat anyone who doesn't have a good time to a night out at the Comedy Club.

A separate attachment to the newsletter is the report summary submitted to Regional Director Jan Sullivan for those who may want a quick review of the year so far. Also attached is a W.I.C. week report and professional education speaker programs report. Take a 15 minute break from work and check them out. Getting them turned in by the deadline was a little hectic for me but I felt very proud of our chapter as I was summarizing and that turned the hectic-ness into happiness.

Elaine



MARK YOUR CALENDARS



May 15–17, 2009 – Region 4 Forum

Our chapter will be hosting this Spring's Forum at the Marriott Griffin Gate Resort in Lexington. Registration opens at 6:00 PM On Thursday, May 14th for anyone wanting to register early. On Friday, May 15th a "Horses & History Tour" will be offered, as well as First Aid Training. Friday evening will be filled with "ice-breaker" activities and the sounds of jazz music playing. The Keynote Speaker on Saturday will be Denise Norbert-Johnson, who is a past NAWIC National President. Please join us for what is sure to be a FUN event!!



Thursday, May 21, 2009 – Tour

A style of architecture evolved in the early 1900s along with the worldwide movement known as Arts and Crafts. Frank Lloyd Wright was one proponent of this style. He coined the term 'Prairie' for the design of a low, horizontal structure that would mimic in some ways the landscape in states like Wisconsin and Michigan. Possibly the most significant of these houses was the Robie House, located in Chicago, Illinois. Its uniqueness inspired Michael and Christine Huskisson more than sixteen years ago. Michael Huston, architect, managed to

incorporate that inspiration most prominently in the exterior of the Huskisson residence, while breaking from the more traditional lines for a more contemporary interior. While this house is not situated on a prairie, its long overhanging eaves make an extraordinary statement as back dropped by the hills and valleys of the Kentucky River. Please join the Huskisson's for a tour of their beautiful new home, still under construction, hear a few stories about undertaking a project of this size, and more information about the Arts and Crafts style at our May meeting.

Thursday, June 16, 2009 – Shades of Green

Chapter member Boo Blakey retired from teaching this school year to work full time with her husband. They own WreckCREATIONS, a remodeling and handy-man service company. Boo has just launched her own eco-friendly product and décor consultation company named Environmental Décor and will give us the definition of green, ways to make our lives a little greener, and tell us how to recognize green when you see it.

Thursday, July 16, 2009 – Showroom Tour

What's new in Kitchen & Bath design? What products will we be seeing more of in the future? Join us for a tour of Creative Kitchen & Bath. Their spacious showrooms feature a variety of products partnering with only the finest cabinet makers and plumbing manufactures. The company provides the latest in design for the kitchen and bath and also professional installation of cabinets.



Chapter member Melani Fosson is the showroom manager.

Unless noted all General Membership meetings are held at the
Marriott Griffin Gate Resort @1800 Newtown Pike
Networking at 5:30 p.m., Dinner at 6:00 p.m. and Program starting approx 6:30 p.m.

Remember make your reservations with Susan Cox at scox@messer.com by noon on the Tuesday prior to meetings. First time guests are welcome at no cost.



WeAreBuilding.

Messer Construction Co. Receives International Recognition from Better Business Bureau
Torch Award presented for exhibiting integrity, fostering trust

Cincinnati, Ohio [April 1, 2009] – Messer Construction Co. has been awarded the 2009 International Torch Award for Marketplace Excellence, presented by the Council of Better Business Bureaus. During an event in Washington, D.C., on March 31, Messer was recognized for exhibiting integrity in the marketplace and exemplary dedication to fostering trust between businesses and consumers.

Messer was honored corporately along with American Honda Motor Co., Target Corporation, and Freescale Semiconductor at the annual event. Messer's Marketplace Excellence award recognizes superior commitment to exceptional standards that benefit customers, employees, suppliers, shareholders and surrounding communities.

The Torch Awards attracted hundreds of entries from around the country which were narrowed to 85 finalists in the Marketplace Excellence category this year.

As a 100 percent employee-owned S-Corporation, Messer is guided by 13 key values that provide employee-owners with a framework for enhancing clients' success, creating exceptional building experiences and relationships and doing the right thing – every time, all the time.

Presented annually since 1996, the BBB International Torch Awards recognize companies in North America that maintain outstanding dedication to upholding ethical business standards and promoting trust in the marketplace. BBB Torch Awards are awarded locally by more than 80 BBBs across the U.S. and Canada and on the international stage by the Council of Better Business Bureaus – the national organization representing the BBB system.

About Messer Construction Co.

Messer Construction Co. is a regional construction manager and general contractor providing leadership for complex building projects in Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Founded in 1932, Messer has built a premier reputation through outstanding construction experiences and value with a focus on healthcare, higher education, and senior living. An employee-owned company, Messer ranks nationally as one of the Top 100 largest contractors as well as a Top 40 green contractor. In 2008, Messer put in place approximately \$670 million in commercial construction.

California Construction

Women- & Minority-Owned Businesses

Pat McDonald, NAWIC's 2009 president, tells what it takes for a woman-owned construction business to succeed, even in these tough times

By Greg Aragon

Pat McDonald has made a name for herself in construction.

Since entering the trucking industry in the early 1980s, the California native has worked her way up through various companies, learning everything from billing to truck-trailer maintenance.

In 1994, she founded STI Trucking in San Jose, and last year she was named president of the National Association of Women in Construction. Along the way, she beat breast cancer and learned what it takes for a woman to make it in a field dominated by men.

California Construction magazine recently spoke to McDonald about life in construction.

California Construction: How did you get into construction?

McDonald: I was a stay-at-home, licensed day-care mom and because I had a pending divorce I had to get a job. Through a friend, I got a job doing the books at a freight-hauling trucking company. I did their books, learned dispatch, drove a truck, ran the dock and absorbed all I could. And then four years later I got into construction trucking and progressed through that until I founded STI in 1994.

Construction was not what I wanted to do when I grew up, but now I love it.

CC: What do you like most about the construction industry?

McDonald: It is such a great industry. I think one reason is because when you drive down the street and see the different projects that you've been involved in, you remember them and you take some ownership and pride in everyone of them.

CC: What was the biggest challenge you faced in starting your own trucking company?

McDonald: Three years after STI was started, my business partner and her husband backed out and I had to make some tough decisions. Do I continue the company or do I close the whole thing down and I go work for somebody? Because of the skills and support I got in NAWIC, and because of the support of the guys that worked with me, I decided to keep STI going.

At that point I knew nothing except billing. So for the next four years, besides running dispatch and billing, my job was greasing, changing oil and mud flaps and getting to know the equipment and how it ran. I felt I couldn't supervise it if I had no knowledge about it. I think that that learning curve was the toughest thing.



CC: What was the most difficult part of the construction industry to learn?

McDonald: The most difficult area for me was estimating because I feel like it is who you know and I didn't have those contacts in place at the time. And as a woman I found it very difficult to go into a meeting cold and create those contacts on the spot.

CC: How did you overcome this?

McDonald: By persistence. You make mistakes and learn from them and create contacts and get people to know who you are. And it takes a while.

CC: In general, what roadblocks do you think a woman faces when getting into the construction industry?

McDonald: I truly think that in such a male-dominated industry the biggest roadblock is respect and acknowledgement as an equal. We talk to tradeswomen and it is the same thing, they have to prove themselves if they are out there with a hammer or a welder. I had to do the same thing.

For instance, in my [trucking business] it is mostly minority men who operate their own rigs that pull my trailers and I think it was very difficult at first for them [to realize] that this not-very-big woman was going to grease the trailers and change the mud flaps and make sure the equipment was safe.

CC: What advice would you give to other women who are getting into the industry?

McDonald: I would tell them to follow the NAWIC core values which are: believe in yourself, dare to go into new horizons and perseverance with the strength of your convictions.

CC: How do you feel about becoming president of the National Association of Women in Construction?

McDonald: I think my presidency, as most, is simply a continuum in keeping the association focused and going forward on what is important, which is helping each other and women in the industry, whether they are members or not. It's an honor and it's exiting, challenging and humbling.

CC: How did this come to be?

McDonald: It was a drive I had. I felt I had good leadership skills and felt I could use them in the association. In the late 90s I decided to run for regional director and then a couple years later I ran for treasurer and then I was just driven to continue up and run for vice president, president-elect and then president.

I felt that with the skills I got from NAWIC, I could help other women to be enthused and increase their knowledge base in construction

CC: What important skills did you learn from NAWIC?

McDonald: I learned not just business skills, but also presentation skills, time-management skills and knowledge about insurance. I've taken courses through the NAWIC Education Foundation, which gave me broader knowledge of the industry.

CC: How have you been affected by the economic downturn?

McDonald: It's a tough economy right now. We've got some stuff on the books, but our gross billing and revenue is down about 40% to 50% from a year ago. We've had to cut prices because of supply and demand: there are too many trucks and not enough work. To help my sub-haulers I lowered my trailer rent. I also had to lay off my maintenance person, so I am back out there again getting greasy. It's what you have to do to survive.



What is FORUM?

According to *The American Heritage® Dictionary* it can be:

- A public meeting place for open discussion.
- A public meeting or presentation involving a discussion usually among experts and often including audience participation.

And according to our NAWIC Bylaws, Article VIII - Regions - Section 2: Annual Regional Forums:

Each Region shall hold an Annual Regional Forum in the spring of each year, at which the Region's Director, if appropriate, shall be elected in accordance with Article X, Section 2 of these Bylaws. Any other business pertaining to the specific Region, which is not in conflict with the governing rules of this Association, may be conducted.

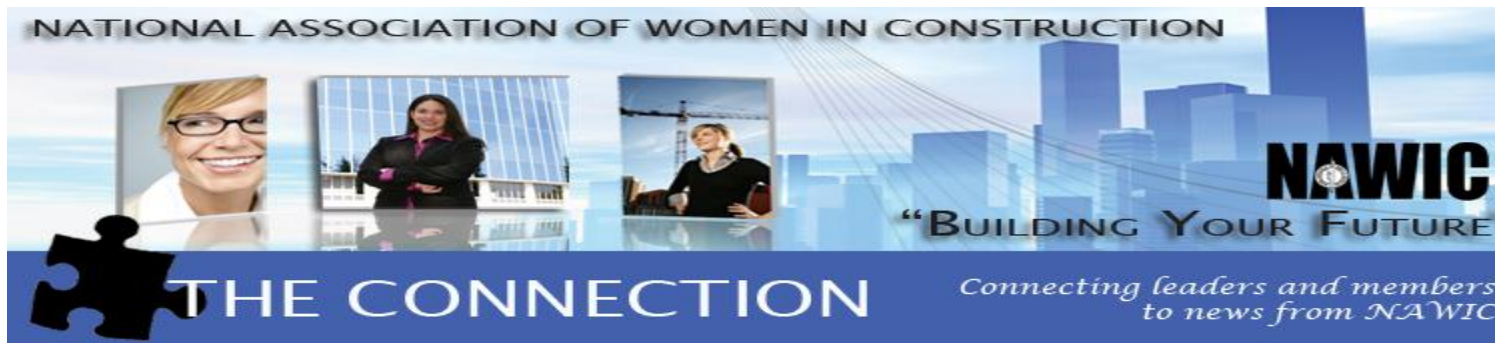
Our national Association is divided into 14 regions and Region 4 covers 5 states: Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and West Virginia. There are 21 chapters in our region and the conference moves to different areas of the region each year. Our Bluegrass chapter will host the 2009 event May 15 – 17 and expect about 100 attendees. Forum activities usually include a keynote speaker, training sessions, business meetings, committee reports, professional seminars, construction industry related workshops and a bit of entertainment.

The schedule (yet to be defined) will include:

- Friday morning - optional activities (First Aid training session, golf, tours, etc.)
- Friday afternoon - regional meeting and reports
- Friday evening – networking, chapter sales, entertainment
- Saturday – keynote speaker, workshops, lunch, and seminars
- Saturday evening – banquet with comedian for entertainment
- Sunday morning – breakfast and final business

All NAWIC members are invited to attend Region 4 Forum with Director Jan Sullivan, CCA, CDS, CIT presiding. Whether you've just joined, are a long term member, serve on the chapter board, or haven't had that opportunity yet, this regional conference will be educational and enjoyable! Take this opportunity to network with women throughout the region and gain valuable knowledge to enhance your success. Find out what other chapters are focused on and share ideas. Registration information will be available soon.

Several Bluegrass chapter members are already doing the behind the scenes work to make this event a great one and working with Director Sullivan. We'll need more volunteers as the date draws near. Would you like to help? Contact Christine Parsons at 859-294-2614 or parsons@parsonselectric.com and join the team!



Help Build NAWIC's Future — Vote!

Plan on exercising your right to vote by participating in NAWIC's one member, one-vote election! All members — except Associate, Retired, Student, Student-at-Large and International members — are eligible to vote. The NAWIC Office will print National Voting Ballots for Officer Elections in May. Ballots will be mailed no later than June 1.

Please make sure your mailing address is accurate. Ballots returned to the NAWIC Office will not be forwarded. To update your address, visit <http://www.nawic.org/> > Member Log In > Member Center > Update Your Info. [Click here](#) to access more information about the candidates, and look for your Voting Guidelines and Candidate Profiles in the February/March issue of *The NAWIC IMAGE*. Below is the official slate of candidates running for NAWIC Office.

President-Elect	Debra M. Gregoire, CIT
Vice President	JudyDeWeese, CIT Yasmine A. Branden, CCA
Secretary	Shirley S. Horne, CIT
Treasurer	Cindy Johnsen, CDS, CIT

NAWIC/NCCER Women in Leadership Academy

Build a Strong Leadership Team with NCCER/NAWIC Women in Leadership Academy! NAWIC has partnered with National Center for Construction Education & Research (NCCER) to create a leadership academy designed specifically for women. The academy provides women with the opportunity to elevate their careers, and their management and leadership roles within their company and the construction industry. The next Leadership Academy is scheduled for June 27-30 at The Nature Place in Florissant, Colo. Reserve your seat today. For more information, call (888) 622-3720, or [click here](#) for the registration form.

NAWIC & NAWIC-United Kingdom Expand

NAWIC continues to grow here and abroad! We are in the formative stages of new chapters here in America, with the Westchester County, N.Y., Chapter set to charter March 27. Meanwhile, NAWIC-United Kingdom hosted a new chapter informational session in Ireland in March. More than 90 potential members attended, and the national news media provided great coverage of the event.

April

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 Easter 
13 Meeting RSVP Deadline	14	15	16 Membership Mtg @ Clay Ingels	17	18	19
20 Forum Committee Mtg @ BB&T	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Mother's Day
11	12	13	14	15 FORUM	16 FORUM	17 FORUM
18	19	20	21 Membership Meeting	22	23	24
25 Memorial Day	26	27	28	29	30	31

N.A.W.I.C.

Bluegrass Chapter #367
Lexington, KY

Editor

Susan Cox
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Essential Links

National NAWIC
www.nawic.org

Regional NAWIC
www.nawic4.org

Bluegrass NAWIC
www.bgnawic.org

NAWIC Education
Foundation
www.nawiceducation.org

Contact Page**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Cindy Hiens Treasurer
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parsons@parsonselectric.com

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.