



National Association of Women in Construction Maine Chapter 276

February 2010 Newsletter
Volume 31 Number 5

President's Message

It's hard to believe we're already a full month into 2010! Winter isn't over yet, but with the warmer weather we've experienced these last few weeks I've started feeling like spring is just around the corner.



As we all prepare ourselves for, what hopefully turns out to be, a busy construction season let's not forget to take care of ourselves in the process. February is Heart Disease Awareness Month. Director Carol Henry has some great information in her newsletter on warning signs of a heart attack. Be sure to check it out!

LAST MONTHS MEETING:



For our January meeting we were fortunate to be able to have three representatives on hand for a "Do-It-Herself" presentation. The unfortunate part was that we ran out of time and didn't get to actually "Do-It-Herself". Regardless, I think we would all agree that the presentation by Cheryl Gish, Beth Nasberg and Eddie was well worth it. These ladies were knowledgeable in their field and included a touch of humor. We learned some tricks to repairing drywall and more than we ever thought we could about interior painting.

Aside from the presentation, we had a productive board meeting. Our chapter voted to donate \$500 to the Women Unlimited Tradeswomen Conference in order to reduce registration costs. In addition, we voted provide a scholarship to Kathy Stephenson to attend this event. Kathy is a past member of our chapter that is currently unemployed and was unable to renew her NAWIC membership.

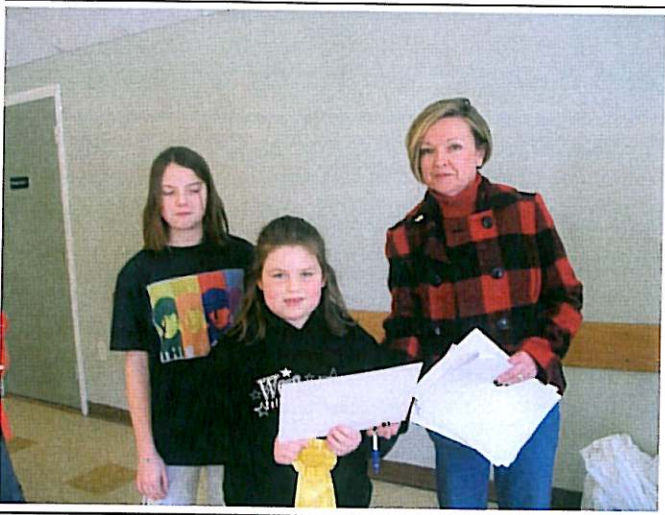
At the board meeting we also voted to nominate Joyce Newman for the Ralph G. Knowlton Memorial Award. This is an award recognizing contributions to improving communications in the construction industry in Maine. The nomination forms are in progress and we wish Joyce the best of luck. She is truly deserving of this honor and we feel the judges will agree.





“SPOTLIGHT”:

This month's edition of spotlight features someone that has been a member of NAWIC for many years. You've probably seen her around. If you don't know her, you do now. Introduce yourself!



Sharon Martel at a recent Block Kids event.

SHARON MARTEL

“I live in Lewiston with my husband, David, our dog Sammie J and cat, Toby. We have two lovely grown daughters, a son-in-law and 9 ½ month old grandson. In the winter I snowshoe and hike and in the spring and summer I hike, bike and fly-fish. I have been in the surety/bonds field since June, 1991 and currently work for The Ohio Casualty Insurance Company which is part of the Liberty Mutual Group. I am a Commercial Underwriter and assist many insurance agents in ME, NH, VT and upstate NY working with individuals and small business with their bonding needs.

I initially joined NAWIC so that I could network with women in a similar field. This also provided me the opportunity to meet women who had undertaken a new course in their life and became owners of their own business in the construction related fields. Being part of such a nationwide

hrodzen@ssasurety.com

organization gives me an opportunity to meet women from other states that have a common interest in promoting and enhancing the success of women in the construction field.”

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

- February 4th @ 6:00 pm Lacey Barcelou will be hosting a Block Kids event in Greene. If you are able to assist with this event please contact her at lacey@americanconcrete.com
- February 17th meeting will be held at Marco's Restaurant in Lewiston. Rachael Bairstow, a chapter member, will be presenting an environmentally related topic.
- March 7th – 13th is WIC (Women in Construction) Week.
- April 9th – 10th is Spring Forum in Canandaigua, NY. This is being hosted by Greater Rochester chapter # 314. The theme of this conference is Womens Leadership. Registration packets will be coming out soon. If you have the ability to attend please do. Remember, our chapter has a registration reimbursement program. All regional and annual events are great networking and educational opportunities.
- April 14th & 15th is our 30th Construction Expo.



SURVEY SAYS:

The Ways & Means committee needs your help! They are looking to have some new shirts made that will be considered business casual for those with dress codes. Please take this survey to assist this committee with their planning/purchase efforts.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SZX53GD>

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CONSTRUCTION EXPO UPDATE:

*** Construction Expo – We have almost 90 exhibitors confirmed and some great new seminars by other trade associations scheduled. About 100 previous participants and new companies have been invited to participate.

To celebrate our 30th annual Expo, we will be hosting our 1st Annual Job Fair. Construction companies, career centers and post secondary schools will be invited to participate. People looking for jobs in the industry will be the focus of this event which will be held Wednesday morning, April 14th from 7:00AM – 11:00AM.

COMMITTEES:

*** The Marketing/PR committee has been sending out notices of our achievements and meetings to local media. In addition, this committee is working to have an article put together on our chapter and the Construction Expo in conjunction with WIC Week.

*** WIC Week is the March 7-13 2010. Our region reached 100% participation by the December 15th deadline.

*** The Ways & Means committee is gathering ideas for a new polo style shirt. These shirts will be available on a pre-order basis with some additional be purchased for sale at regional conferences. Please take the survey this month. The information provided will be useful to this committee in their planning/purchase.

*** We just completed our first Block Kids event on January 31st. Thank you to Angela Levasseur for putting this together. Another event is planned for February 4th. Two others are in the works. Stay tuned for dates and times.





AS A REMINDER:

- NAWIC items are on sale and available at every chapter meeting. Lacey Barcelou is our Sales Items committee chair. If you would like additional information please let her know. Lacey would also like to work on getting some new polo styled NAWIC clothing. If you are interested in this type of garment please let her know.
- All members are invited and encouraged to attend the Board meetings so they can contribute their thoughts and opinions.
- If you have information or pictures you'd like put into the newsletter please let me know. Suggestions are also always welcomed.
- NEF fundraising tickets are on sale at each meeting from now until Convention. These tickets are \$10/each or \$25/3 tickets. There are cash prizes and the winning tickets will be drawn at Convention 2010. You do not need to be present to win.



QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

Make it a habit to tell people thank you. To express your appreciation, sincerely and without the expectation of anything in return. Truly appreciate those around you, and you'll soon find many others around you. Truly appreciate life, and you'll find that you have more of it.

— Ralph Marston

NEXT MEETING: February 17, 2010

hrodzen@ssasurety.com

2009-2010 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS:

President: Heidi Rodzen, Skillings Shaw & Associates hrodzen@ssasurety.com

Vice President: Lacey Barcelou, American Concrete lacey@americanconcrete.com

Secretary: Crystal Manzer, Bruce A. Manzer, Inc. cdm8991@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Joyce Newman, Maine Better Transportation Association nawicmaine@aol.com

Directors:

Shelly Chipman, Atwork Personnel
shelly@atworkpersonnel.com

Trisha Mosher, Women Unlimited
tmosher@womenunlimited.org

Tracie Travers, ABC of Maine
tracie@abcmaine.org

Robin Wood, Reed & Reed rwood@reed-reed.com



Back Left to Right: Shelly Chipman, Crystal Manzer, Tracie Travers.
Front Left to Right: Trisha Mosher, Joyce Newman, Heidi Rodzen,
Lacey Barcelou. Absent: Robin Wood.

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ATTACHMENTS:

- Current Chapter Member Contact Information
- 2010-2011 Scholarship Application
- 2010 Construction Expo of Maine Exhibitor Registration Form