



# Region 4 - NAWIC's Core! News & Information

July 1, 2007

Core Purpose: To enhance the success of women in the construction industry

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## Greetings from your Director!

Summertime and construction – does it get any better than this? Winter weather will be here before we know it, so I hope all your projects will be ‘under roof’ by then. Planning ahead is the key to accomplishing tasks on time. Have you helped your chapter make plans for the future? Now that the chapter officers have been elected for the 2007-2008 year it's time to start planning for a smooth transition. If you are not serving as a chapter officer, have you volunteered to serve on a committee? Make the most of your membership by getting involved!

I've been involved in our region recently by traveling to and visiting with members from the Bowling Green, Dayton, Detroit, Lima and Toledo chapters. Thank you ladies for my shot of NAWIC energy!

My sincere thanks to Debbie Gregoire, CIT, of the Cleveland chapter for helping me develop a new Region 4 Website! Check us out at [www.nawic4.org](http://www.nawic4.org) and let me know if you have suggestions for improvements.

*Christine*

## Chapter News

**AKRON** – Chapter member Jane Piehl gave a powerful report on her recent week spent in Waveland, Mississippi helping some residents rebuild their homes. The power-point pictures were a dramatic compliment to her descriptions of before and after effects of the storm damage and the changes to the lives of the local people and communities.

**BLUEGRASS** – Rock fences are one of the most identifiable and well-known features of the Kentucky Bluegrass area. Members learned about the history and structural elements of the dry stone technique and discussed preservation efforts in the area with a representative of the Dry Stone Conservancy.

**BOWLING GREEN – SOUTH CENTRAL KENTUCKY** – This new chapter chartered in grand style and has already established partnering agreements with ABC and AGC.

**CINCINNATI** – Members Rebecca Thompson and Jenny Mangas presented “The Role of the Board” and chapter elections were held.

**CLEVELAND** – Along with chapter elections, several members of this

## Mark your Calendar for Region 4 Events:

### National Convention

September 5-8, 2007  
Caribe Royale  
Orlando, Florida

### Annual Planning Conference

November 3, 2007  
The Galt House  
Louisville, Kentucky

### Forum 2008

April 11 – 13, 2008  
Marriott Renaissance Center  
Detroit, Michigan

## Region 4 Websites

NEW! REGION 4 WEBSITE!!  
[www.nawic4.org](http://www.nawic4.org)

Bluegrass  
[www.bgnawic.org](http://www.bgnawic.org)

Cincinnati  
[www.nawiccincinnati.org](http://www.nawiccincinnati.org)

Cleveland  
[www.nawiccleveland.org](http://www.nawiccleveland.org)

Detroit  
[www.nawicdetroit.com](http://www.nawicdetroit.com)

Fort Wayne  
[www.nawicfortwayne.org](http://www.nawicfortwayne.org)

Grand Rapids  
[www.nawic194.org](http://www.nawic194.org)

Kalamazoo/Battle Creek  
[www.nawickzoobc.com](http://www.nawickzoobc.com) **NEW!**

Lansing  
[www.nawiclansing.org](http://www.nawiclansing.org)

Lorain County  
[www.nawic.netfirms.com](http://www.nawic.netfirms.com)

Toledo  
[www.nawictoledo.org](http://www.nawictoledo.org)

chapter were present for the dedication of the two Women Build homes which 80% of the chapter had donated time to since August 2006.

**COLUMBUS** – The month of May found these members operating heavy equipment compliments of Ohio CAT for their 'Dirt and Skirt' meeting. Leadership for the coming year was elected at the June meeting

**DAYTON** – The Dayton Chapter held a 'wheelbarrow of tools' raffle at the City of Dayton – Miami Valley Construction Career Days. Unions and other organizations set up booths at Dayton Riverscape for recruiting purposes. Members also joined the Lima Chapter and toured the Fort Piqua (Orr-Statler) Hotel which is being renovated. The hotel accommodated people such as Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, Harry Houdini & John Phillip Sousa.

**DETROIT** – Chapter members, sponsoring companies, and industry leaders celebrated Construction Industry Night in June. 'Distinguished New Constructor' and 'Longevity and Integrity' awards were presented.

**EVANSVILLE** – A day at the races is being planned to celebrate this chapter's 44th anniversary. Members and guests from around the region are invited to attend the Ellis Park track on Saturday, July 21. For more information call Mary Martin (812) 422-8002.

**FORT WAYNE** – Members re-toured the Fort Wayne Newspaper and were thoroughly informed about the new presses being used. Several members also volunteered their time to help the kids at Camp Whatcha Wanna Do (for children with cancer). This year's project for the kids was assembling, painting and decorating small tool boxes. The children loved making them as much as the members loved helping them. What a rewarding project!

**GRAND RAPIDS** – Thirty guests were present for this chapter's 'Bring Your Boss to NAWIC' night. A wide variety of construction issues were presented by seven speakers and the event was declared a grand success!

**INDIANAPOLIS** – This chapter has been busy raising money for their scholarship fund by working at Home-A-Rama during June. Additional funds will be raised at the August golf outing.

The national winners in the CAD/Design/Drafting Scholarship Award Competition have been announced and the entry sponsored by the Indianapolis chapter, Tom Kortzendorf, placed second in the hand drafting division. Congratulations!

**KALAMAZOO/BATTLE CREEK** – Members toured the Winds Casino in New Buffalo. This project took 4 years of planning to accomplish a one-year build.

**LANSING** – Sara Cunningham, Esquire gave a presentation on 'Updates in construction Law at this chapter's June meeting. Chapter elections were also held.

**LIMA OHIO AREA** – This chapter's June meeting was just "awesome" as they held a joint meeting with the Dayton Chapter. There were 16 people total who attended, including 4 guests from the Dayton chapter. The group met for a job site tour at the Piqua Orr-Statler Hotel, which is currently undergoing extensive renovation work being led by Tuttle Construction, the general contractor for the project. The Region 4 Director, Christine Parsons also joined them and gave a fun audience-

## Committee Information

### Construction Industry

Tammy Sweeris, CDS, CIT  
grwictammy@aol.com

### Mentoring

Suellen Cadle  
scadle@oswaldcompanies.com

### Membership

Vickie Owens  
Vickieo@tuttlenet.com and  
Wendy Baxter, CIT  
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### Newsletter

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### Professional Education

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### PR/Marketing

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### Safety

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### Website

Debbie Gregoire, CIT  
dgregoire@brewer-garrett.com

### WIC Week

Kim Parks  
kparks@danisbuilding.com  
and Candy Riley, CIT  
criley@neyer.com

### NEF Liaison

Melanie Myers  
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### Block Kids

Beth Robison  
Brobison1@yahoo.com

### CAD/Design/Drafting

Stephanie Branham  
stephanieb@nccrs.com

participation presentation on "Membership" to the group after dinner.

**LORAIN COUNTY** – Bob Perritt of RJ Perritt Builders and Rocco Fanna of NCBA spoke about 'Energy Innovation of the new Green Homes'. Members heard about homes being built for efficiency, durability and indoor air quality and processes that make the home healthier and cleaner.

**NORTHWEST INDIANA** – Member Ruth Drake, a project manager, spoke of her career in the construction field. New member Christine Neal was installed and chapter elections were held.

**TERRE HAUTE** – The Hilton Garden Inn served as the site tour for these chapter members.

**TEST** – My thanks to the 33 of you who paid attention last month. A drawing will be held at APC in Louisville to determine the winner.

**TOLEDO** – Summer is a great time for job site tours! The women of this chapter re-toured the Penta Career Center.

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## Membership

Wendy Baxter, CIT & Vickie Owens

The NAWIC year is starting to wind down. By now chapters have elected their new officers, and hopefully all members sent in their ballots for national officers. Your vote does really count. Even though we're nearing the end of the NAWIC year, we encourage you to continue to promote our organization and recruit new members. Have you recruited a new member this year? The "Power of One" competition for our region is in full swing. How many can you recruit between April 1 – September 30? Just think how much our region would grow if each member brought in one new member. The summer months are a great time to have jobsite tours and outdoor events. These are perfect opportunities to invite potential members to participate. Hope all of you have a great summer.

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## NAWIC Education Foundation

Melanie Myers

### Construction Document Specialist Information

Part one of the new two-part CDS will be available for sale at convention and thereafter. Part two will be available by November 1. The cost of the new course is \$250 per book. Sales of the current CDS will be discontinued on September 1, 2007. The certification exam for the current course will be discontinued May, 2008.

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## Safety News

Traci Hardin, CIT

### Safety and Health Add Value...

**To Your Business and Employees** - Businesses spend \$170 billion a year on costs associated with occupational injuries and illnesses -- expenditures that come straight out of company profits. But workplaces that establish safety and health management systems can reduce their injury and illness costs by 20 to 40 percent. In today's business

## Chapter Presidents

Akron

***Mardi Gauer, CIT***

Bluegrass

***Kim Hellmueller***

Bowling Green – South  
Central Kentucky

***Kim Hansen***

Cincinnati

***Kristina Dewberry***

Cleveland

***Debbie Mazzola, CIT***

Columbus

***Suellen Cadle***

Dayton

***Rhonda Rhoades***

Detroit

***Mickey Marshall, CIT***

Evansville

***Kim Ortiz***

Fort Wayne

***Diana Miller***

Grand Rapids

***Betty Veldhouse, CIT***

Indianapolis

***Bobbie Van Howe***

Kalamazoo/Battle Creek

***Shannon Sauer-Becker, CDS, CIT***

Lansing

***Karen Schulert***

Lima

***Wendy Baxter, CIT***

Lorain County

***Vickie Schaffer***

Louisville

***Sherry Blakey***

Northwest Indiana

***Carol Cardetti-Berger***

South Bend/Mishawaka

***Jane Shimp***

Terre Haute

***Amy Land, CIT***

Toledo

***Carla Klatt***

black and running in the red.

Injuries and illnesses increase workers' compensation and retraining costs, absenteeism, and faulty product. They also decrease productivity, morale, and profits. Businesses operate more efficiently when they implement effective safety and health management systems.

**To Your Workplace** - Workplaces with active safety and health leadership have fewer injuries, are often rated "better places to work," and have more satisfied, more productive employees. These employees return to work more quickly after an injury or illness and produce higher-quality products and services. Safe environments improve employee morale, which often leads to increased productivity and better service. Lost productivity from injuries and illnesses costs companies \$60 billion each year.

**To Your Life** - Millions of Americans work hard every day so they can build a better life for their families. OSHA helps to make sure that they return to their families in the same condition they began their day. Every injury prevented is a person kept whole; every life saved is a family preserved intact.

Safe workplaces not only save life, they promote successful, vibrant lives. Workers who suffer a disabling injury can lose 40 percent of their income over five years. Families can lose even more because of the increased stress, conflict, and divorce associated with occupational injury and illness. On the other hand, safe workplaces provide an environment for healthy workers whose jobs become vehicles for making a life -- not just a living.

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## Welcome New Members!

### Akron

Jennifer Dotson, Geis Companies

### Cincinnati

Kathleen Fischer, Craftsman Electric, Inc.

Kara Sanders, Messer Construction

### Cleveland

Vicki Anderson, Chemsteel Construction Company

Mary Ann Andrews, Stevens Painting Company

### Dayton

Nancy Howell, Danis Building Construction Co.

Coy Tropp, Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc.

### Detroit

Stephanie Allen, Barton Malow

Catherine DeDecker, Spalding DeDecker Associates, Inc.

Christine Sterling, Benzella Management Group, Inc.

### Lansing

Wendy Yelsik, R. Roese Contracting Co., Inc.

### Northwest Indiana

Tracey Dixon, Scaffold Builders

Christine Neal, Builder/Architect Magazine

### Member-At-Large

Teressa Schaafsma, ABC Supply Co., Inc.

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## Bits & Pieces

### PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS

For consideration at the 2007 Pre Annual Board of Directors Meeting

#### Proposed revisions to NAWIC Association Bylaws:

#### Article IX – Officers, Section 3: Elections of Officers, C. Elections of Officers

##### ***Currently Reads***

The President-Elect, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected by mail ballot, by a majority of votes cast, in accordance with voting procedures adopted by the NAWIC Board of Directors.

##### ***Change to read***

The President-Elect, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected by mail ballot, by a majority of votes cast, in accordance with voting procedures adopted by the NAWIC Board of Directors. *When there is only one nominee for **all** offices, the NAWIC Secretary may be instructed to cast the elective ballot.*

**Rationale: To reduce printing, postage and tabulation costs incurred when there is only one candidate for every office. Determination would be in compliance with voting procedures including those of write in candidates.**

As the Region 4 representative on the national board of directors, I need to receive your comments about this proposal by August 15. Send your email to [parsons@parsonselectric.com](mailto:parsons@parsonselectric.com) or call 800-733-2193.

#### Contact Information

##### **NAWIC Office**

800-552-3506  
[nawic@nawic.org](mailto:nawic@nawic.org)

##### **NAWIC President**

Christie Wigginton, CIT  
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#### NAWIC Core Values

***Believe*** in ourselves

***Persevere*** with the strength  
of our convictions

***Dare*** to move into new  
horizons

**NAWIC Builds – education. career. future – Build your life with NAWIC**