



# NAWIC Divine Region 9 Monthly

February 2009

*Enhancing the Success of Women in the Construction Industry*

## Director's Note...

By Yasmine A. Branden, CCA

**Dreams are not made to put us to sleep, but awaken us.**

**Anonymous**

Region 9 has taken the quote to heart, planting the seeds of a construction career in the minds of young people. Who hasn't dreamed of driving big equipment, demolishing a building, or building the perfect space?

Chapters are busy with Block Kids this month. Great Falls had great media coverage for their event. It's great to see the excitement in the students' eyes as they talk about their projects. Perhaps these students will participate in CAD/Drafting or MAGIC Camp or Construction Career Day in a few years, having been inspired by one of you at Block Kids.

Forum is April 16 – 19 at the Hotel Monaco. We have loads of fabulous professional development sessions. Among the workshops: "BIM: The Ramifications for Design & Construction," "Succeeding in the Green Home Market," and "Shut up and Color!" Details on the regional website:

[www.nawicregion9.org](http://www.nawicregion9.org)

I was fortunate to attend the rescheduled 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Salem Chapter #198. Several former and charter members were in attendance. President Nancy Carter posted the charter, with the signatures of all the charter members. I had a great time meeting new NAWICians (at least, new to me) and catching up with "the old gang."

Ruth Fritts, Region 9 Safety Chair, has posted the Annual Safety Excellence Award application on the regional website. I encourage all of you to encourage your members to submit their companies for consideration. As we know, thinking safety is the most important thought we can have in our day – in the field, in the office, in our homes, in every aspect of our lives.

Reminder that Mid-Year Board is rapidly approaching! If you have anything you'd like brought to the attention of your Board, let me know by Friday, 20 February.

Finally, our region has two things to celebrate Feb 14 – Valentine's Day and Oregon observes it's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of statehood.

Check the  
Region 9  
website  
for  
program  
due dates

## NAWIC Divine Region 9 Monthly

Founded in 1955, NAWIC is a not for profit organization dedicated to enhancing the success of women in the construction industry. NAWIC serves all women who work in and for the construction industry.

The NAWIC Divine Region 9 Monthly is published by NAWIC Region 9 Director, Yasmine A. Branden, CCA. This publication acts as a moderator without approving, disapproving or guaranteeing the validity or accuracy of any data, claims or opinions appearing under a byline or obtained or quoted from an acknowledged source. This Newsletter is published monthly for the benefit of its members and the construction industry at large. Publication deadline is the 30th of each month for the following month's newsletter:

For information regarding this newsletter or to send submissions, please contact Yasmine Branden: [yasmine.branden@neilkelly.com](mailto:yasmine.branden@neilkelly.com)

## NAWIC Core Values:

**Believe in ourselves  
Persevere with the strength of our convictions  
Dare to move into new horizons**

**Portland #54 (Lauren Holmes)**

Happy Valentine's Day! I can not believe it is February already. I hope that everyone is having a fabulous 2009 so far, and that this economic downturn we are facing is not causing you and your companies too much harm.

Our Block Kids event is this month, on Friday February 13<sup>th</sup> at Concord Elementary School in Milwaukie and it is sure to be a blast. Carol Helms and her committee have done a great job planning this event, and we have a lot of members and guests stepping up to be judges this year. Cannot wait to see what the kids come up with!

This month for our membership meeting we will have a speaker from the Colombia River Crossings group and they will be discussing the I-5 bridge crossing project. This project has been discussed for years and this will sure to be interesting discussion and spark a lot of questions from the audience. This month we would also like to continue our food drive for the Oregon Food Bank. So please remember to bring non-perishable foods or monetary donations. Every little bit helps!

Continuing with the philanthropic spirit, we would like to put together a group of people to volunteer at the Oregon Food Bank sorting and boxing food. Please let me know if you are interested in helping out, we are in the process of setting up a day and time.

WIC Week is coming up, and we are busy planning a fabulous meeting. The meeting is set for the HBA and we are working to put together a panel of Oregon State Representatives and/or Senators that are on the Ways and Means Committee. This committee decides the budget for the Oregon Stimulus Package, and we are hoping to be able to get an inside look at what the package means for the Construction industry.

Forum is coming, and we will be voting on our Delegates and Alternates at the February meeting. So let us know if you are interested in going to Seattle in April! We also need to vote for our NAWIC awards, so start thinking about who you think is Chapter 54's Future Leader and WIC of the Year!

Finally, the Oregon Retreat is coming up. The Salem Chapter has asked each Chapter to pick a holiday, and to put on a game/ activity associated with the holiday. If you have any ideas please let us know so we can be prepared when we hit the beach in March!

**Puget Sound #60 (Nicole Martin)**

Our January meeting was well attended! Over 40 people joined us to hear Pam Worner of Green Dog Enterprises share simple cost-effective ways we can be smugly sustainable. What I took away from her presentation was that all of us can do something different, we have to make choices we can live with and those things can be different for everyone. There's no reason to shy away from topics like

renewable energy and climate change, instead get drawn in. There's something we can do at every level to be involved in the changes from our home life to our office. Together we can accomplish a lot.

We are all set for our Block Kids event on Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> at the B.F. Day Elementary School with two 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes. A big thank you to the Block Kids Committee and our judges!

We are busily planning a volunteer activity for WIC week and working on the Forum plans. Please note: We have extended the deadline for Forum registration to March 5<sup>th</sup>!

**Eugene #77 (Anne Thompson)**

Ok, ready, get set, we are off and running for the next two months. There is quite a schedule. We have the Block Kids competition February 21, 2009 at the Science Factory.

Next we have WIC Week March 2<sup>nd</sup> through the 6<sup>th</sup> which Amanda Ring is busy setting up some things for us to get involved with. That same week Nancy Ograin is also putting together a membership drive that we will be holding at LaVelle's Wine tasting room that week. Then hold on, end of that week the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> is the Oregon Retreat in Lincoln City. Make sure you get your registration in by February 27<sup>th</sup>. It will be a lot of fun. Our part this year is we are choosing a holiday and then putting together a project.

We're not done yet. Then April 16<sup>th</sup> through the 18<sup>th</sup> is our Forum in Seattle. The deadline for those registrations is due March 5<sup>th</sup>.

As we can all see it is going to be busy for the next few months.

**Spokane #143 (Jessica Moody)**

Our January meeting was at the AGC on the 15<sup>th</sup>. We had a Tomboy Tool tool demonstration. Tomboy Tools is a NAWIC national sponsor and it was an honor to have Therese Johnston come to our meeting and demonstrate to us the tools she sells.

March 1-7 is WIC week we will be hosting a Wine and Cheese Reception @ AGC on March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009. We will have invitations available to give out. Please invite anyone who has mentored or support you in NAWIC and/or the construction industry.

Forum is April 16-18<sup>th</sup> in Seattle @ Hotel Monaco; registration forms are available on our Spokane and Region 9 websites.

Our Golf Committee met and went over our budget; we discussed sponsors, and registration. If anyone knows of a company who may be interested in sponsoring our 25<sup>th</sup> annual golf tournament please send me their information.

Our February meeting will be at the Steamplant Grill on the 19<sup>th</sup>. We will have a tour of the Steamplant, dinner and our meeting. I know that some of you toured the Steamplant before they finished renovating it, so it should be fun to see how it turned out. I hope to see you all there!

**Tri-Cities #192 (Stacey Keller)**

The Tri-Cities Chapter has recruited 7 new members since the start of the NAWIC year (Oct 1). We are really excited about that. We have a networking event scheduled for February 12<sup>th</sup>. We had one of these last year and had gotten additional members from it. We are hoping for the same results this time around. We had an individual from the Department of Revenue present at our January meeting. They discussed construction tax laws and it proved to be very informative. We just had our second fundraiser with the Tri-City Americans (hockey team) and between the 2 attempts we had with this, we raised over \$500.00. This was such a great fundraising experience that we will be doing this again next year.

**Salem #198 (Nancy Carter)**

The Salem Chapter celebrated our 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our charter with a fun evening of bunko. Thank you to all the guests and former members and for coming and celebrating with us. Linda Sunderlund one of the original charter members came and shared some fun memories of times and events that occurred while she was a member.

The Oregon Coast Retreat committee has been hard at work planning. Keep March 6–7<sup>th</sup> open and plan on attending the "Holidays At The Beach" retreat. It will be held at the Chinook Winds Casino in Lincoln City.

Career Days is off and running. It will be April 28<sup>th</sup> at the Salem Airport and the committee is hard at work planning. We will need everyone's help to make this year's Career Day's a success. We are once again planning on having 600 high school students attend and we need volunteers and vendors.

**Boise #245 (Brenda Smith)**

Happy Valentine's Day everyone! Our February program is a presentation on the Idaho Transportation Department Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) program. We will be learning more about the program and the many resources available to DBE firms. The Boise Chapter has a lot going on over the next few months. We are busy planning our WIC Week celebration that will be held on March 4<sup>th</sup>. Our guest speaker is Pam Lowe, Director of the Idaho Transportation Department. She will share with us her journey regarding her career and how she achieved the highest ranking position with the state department of transportation. MAGIC Camp planning is in full swing. The camp will be June 8<sup>th</sup> – June 12<sup>th</sup> this year. We are partnering with Meridian School District again this year. After last year's event the school district is very excited about this program and is dedicated to making it a success. We have also begun the preparations for our Annual Good, Bad and Ugly Golf Tournament that will be on June 5<sup>th</sup>. We would like to welcome our newest member Marilyn White with Payne Financial Group and look forward to getting to know her.

**Great Falls #228 (Barb Woith)**

Hello to all from Sunny Great Falls, Montana!

The snow is finally melting and the days are getting longer, Yes.

We are busy getting ready for Block Kids this weekend. With a little less than 80 participating we will have a gym full. Invitations were sent thorough the Boys and Girls Club and the Girls Scouts, and we are looking forward to a great Saturday, Feb 7<sup>th</sup>.

CAN-struction is right around the corner for us also. We have our engineer working on our CANNed Corn design, an ear of corn on the cob, and will keep you posted with pictures of both events in the next newsletter.

The Membership as been awesome in helping with both events. We have new chairs on both committees and I want to thank new and old members for their continued support on our efforts to get the NAWIC name and mission to the public, as well as mentoring among ourselves. We welcome our newest member Joni Uhe, Envirocon in Missoula, MT, to our chapter!

Our speaker for February is our newest member, Melissa Rust, with Tilleras Landscape Nursery. She is going to help us get ready for spring with great tips and ideas to beautify our lawns, flowerbeds, trees and shrubs. Such fun. It is a luncheon meeting at Good-eats on Feb 11. Hope to see you all there.

Our members are also busy getting ready for a "girls only" hand and power tool class for our members. Our chapter did this before I joined and I am so looking forward to taking it. Again we will keep you posted as to the progress of this event.

Have a Great Valentine's Day,

**Anchorage #197 (Kris McKinney)**

The Daylight is coming! I can't believe we are already into February. Surprisingly, January went by rather quickly despite the terribly cold temperatures and freezing rain!

Safety note: I hope everyone has had enough time to gather up all of the emergency preparedness items that you may need. We never know what might happen in the exciting land of the midnight sun! Our next meeting is coming up on the 11<sup>th</sup> of February at AGC (on Shoon). We will start out the night with networking at 5:30, dinner at 6 and speaker at 6:30. This month's speaker is from the Army Navy Store, and she will be talking to us about Women's Work Wear. Also, please be thinking of women you would like to nominate for the WIC of the Year, Lifetime Achievement, and Rookie of the Year Awards.

In March we have a big month: starting it out we will be celebrating WIC Week with a special dinner and presentations. Tamie Taylor and her committee have been planning a very exceptional evening for us. It will be held at the Millennium Hotel starting at 5:30 for networking, with dinner and awards to follow. Hope to see you there!

To wrap up the month: Breaking New Ground to Build the Future (formerly Block Kids). This year Chris Jett and Rebecca Logan have done an AMAZING job at expanding the program! We will be holding the program at the BP Energy Center (we out grew the schools☺) on March 28<sup>th</sup> and we are expecting about 300 Girl Scouts! Along with Block Kids, the plan is to introduce the girls to Safety, Building Projects, Hammering, Sawing, and actual Construction Equipment, along with tons more! This year is sure to be outstanding!

Regional FORUM is around the corner. This year it is being held in Seattle, April 16-18. There are already a couple of members signed up and you should attend if at all possible. This year there are fantastic topics and speakers. Not to mention wonderful girl bonding times!

**Tacoma #187 (Cathy Hall)**

The Tacoma chapter has been busy reorganizing and planning our year.

Our topic for the January meeting was a NAWIC power point that was created by the National Office for Sisters in the Building Trades to send to all their affiliates across the country. Kelly Milstead has presented this information to the Sisters and received feedback. She is adding photos and sprucing it up to show all the wonderful events and training opportunities that are NAWIC.

Our speaker for February is Gareth Roe of BCRA Design. Last year he spoke about an urban renewal project for the neighborhood of Tillicum, South of Tacoma. He will be back to update us on the progress and challenges they have faced since the inception of the plan. He will also be speaking about other current projects he is currently working on.

We are all very excited to have this year's Forum in our own backyard. We are looking forward to the many educational and networking opportunities that can be found at Forum.

See you in Seattle!

**Membership Challenge**

Our National Membership Chairs have issued their regional challenge:

Region 4 vs. Region 11  
 Region 12 vs. Region 3  
 Region 13 vs. Region 7

**Region 9 vs. Region 2**


Region 8 vs. Region 5  
 Region 14 vs. Region 6  
 Region 1 vs. region 10

We need to keep close tabs on our friends in Region 2.


Deadlines....Deadlines....Deadlines....Deadlines	
Block Kids	Forum Awards: 9 March 2009
1 March 2009	Lifetime Achievement Future Leader WIC of the Year

# Welcome New Members

New Member	Company	Chapter	Recruiter
Melissa Rust	Tilleraas Landscape Nursery	Great Falls, MT	Susanne Platis
Maili Jonkman		Tacoma, WA	
Marilyn White	Payne Financial Group, Inc	Boise, ID	Stephanie Payne



**Shirley S. Horne, CIT**  
*for NAWIC Secretary*  
**2009-2010**

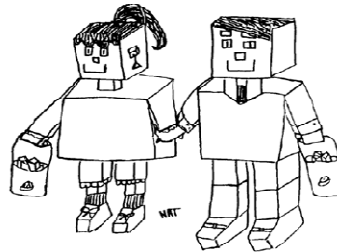


**Responsible ~ Hardworking ~ Dedicated**

*"I am committed to keeping the records of our association in tact and easily accessible, with accuracy and detail. I will appreciate your vote in 2009!"*

Regional and National Service Region 11 Director 2007-2009		<b>MILESTONES</b> Red Rose Recruiter Star Red Rose Recruiter Red Jacket Construction Industry Technician Certification NEF Ladder Club Chapter #301 Member of the Year
Region 11 CI Chair 1994-1995	Region 11 Membership Chair 2003-2004	
Region 11 Membership Chair 1999-2001	Region 11 Block Kids Chair 2004-2005	
Region 11 Team Mates Chair 2001-2002	National Membership Co-Chair 2004-2005	
Region 11 CI Chair 2002-2003	National Membership Chair 2005-2006	
<a href="mailto:shome@hayconstruction.com">shome@hayconstruction.com</a>		

## BLOCK KIDS PROGRAM 2009

*Attention Chapter Block kids Chairs**Deadline Approaching***Construction Requires Imagination & Thought**

The Block Kids program was created in 1990 to introduce children in grades 1 - 6 to the construction industry. Since launching the program, more than 300,000 children have participated.

- A fun, creative program that will engage your students.
- NOVA award winning program.

**Projects are scored on:**

- Oral Presentation • Use of materials • Enthusiasm • Attention to detail • Creativity • Reason for participation

Projects are judged at the local, regional and national level. Prizes are awarded to the top three national winners .

**Regional submissions must be received NO later than**

**March 1, 2009** mail to *Sorry .....No email submissions*

Chris Jett – Region 9 Block kid’s chair 08-09  
8535 Dimond D circle suite 2B  
Anchorage, Alaska 99515

Questions regarding this program are welcome! Contact Chris Jett at [cjett@gci.net](mailto:cjett@gci.net) or by phone at 907- 346-1999

Guidelines for this program can be found on the NEF website. Choose the K-12 program tab where you’ll find everything you need to get your program going. Please review the guidelines all rules will be strictly adhered to.



NAWIC Education Foundation



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

## ***What's time and money got to do with it?***

*By Amanda Wilson, Region 9 NEF Chair*

Most of us are familiar with NEF – NAWIC Education Foundation. We know that the foundation helps to provide education to the construction industry. Some of us may know we pay NEF when buying books or taking exams to obtain our professional certifications. And we've all probably contributed to a NEF raffle.

But what else does the foundation support? Where does my donation go?

These are valid questions that are worth answering because when we ask our fellow members or local businesses for their time and/or money to support NEF - it's important to know the facts.

- *NEF is a non-profit organization; therefore, all donations are tax deductible as a charitable donation.*
- *NEF, in partnership with Clemson University, offers construction certifications including: Construction Industry Technician (CIT), Certified Construction Associate (CCA), and Construction Document Specialist (CDS). Visit [www.nawiceducation.com](http://www.nawiceducation.com) for new pricing.*
- *NEF provides awards to youngsters through the Block Kids and CAD Design/Drafting competitions. The Building Design and Garden Shed are also extremely valuable programs; however, neither are contests.*
- *NEF provides recognition to those in the industry through two awards: Darline H. Johnson Volunteer of the Year Award (NAWIC members only) and the Carol A. Kueker Construction Education Visionary Award (non-NAWIC members only). Nominate someone today!*
- *NEF is governed by a Board of Trustees. There are no NEF "members" but regional liaisons/chairs, chapter committees and sponsors help support the foundation.*
- *NEF does not provide scholarships but the NAWIC Founders Scholarship Foundation (NFSF) does! These are two separate foundations and funds are not co-mingled. Funds must be given directly to the appropriate foundation. As a NAWIC member, you and your family are NOT excluded from NFSF scholarships!*
- *NEF Ladder Club is a "climbing" scale for contributions... receive a gold pin for your first \$100's donated to the foundation (\$25 minimum increments). As you continue to reach the various levels on the ladder, stones are provided to display on your Ladder Club gold pin. Excluded are those donations used to purchase raffle tickets.*
- *NEF and NFSF provide awards to both females and males.*

The above functions are all solid means to help support education in our industry. It's obvious that young individuals and our industry both benefit greatly from our participation in these educational programs. When the economy is struggling, NEF contributions understandably see the effects; it's up to us to get creative and find avenues for ensuring that children continue to have the opportunity to earn an NEF award or a NFSF scholarship.

As a region we will succeed by continuing to donate our time and money for education. Please strive to help your chapter raise \$1,000 this year for NEF; it won't be easy but it is certainly achievable and worth it.

*For more information or questions please feel free to contact:*

*Region 9 NEF Liaison, Chris Wigginton at [chris.wigginton@oldcastleapg.com](mailto:chris.wigginton@oldcastleapg.com) or (509) 995-6386*

*Region 9 NEF Chair, Amanda Wilson at [amanda.wilson@ch2m.com](mailto:amanda.wilson@ch2m.com) or (503) 702-7962*

**Judy DeWeese, CIT**  
*candidate for*  
**NAWIC Vice President**

As NAWIC Vice President, I will continue to utilize my proven organizational and leadership skills to promote and build the Association and truly focus on the success of each woman in construction.

NAWIC Secretary, 2008-2009, 2007-2008  
 Region 7 Director, 2005-2007



Mark Your Calendars

2009 Forum	Seattle	April 16 - 19, 2009
2009 APC	Portland	October 16, 2009
2010 Forum	Eugene	May 14 - 15, 2010
2010 APC	Salem	TBD

**Yasmine A. Branden, CCA**  
*for*  
**NAWIC Vice-President**



NAWIC must honor our past, be relevant for today, and lead our industry into the future. I will bring my energy, enthusiasm and experience to move our association forward.

*Region 9 Director 2007 – 2009*

*Region 9 WIC of the Year – 2006*

*NEF Region 9 Liaison 2005 – 2007*

*NAWIC Delegation to China 2005*

*Professional Education Chair 2006-2007*

*Portland Chapter 54 President 2004 - 2005*

*Professional Education Co-Chair 2005 – 2006*

*Proud Member since 1999*

**Executive Vice President**

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**NATIONAL COMMITTEE CHAIRS/ CO-CHAIRS**

Membership	Toni Walker Janice Ramsay-Gonzales Lynn MacVean, CIT
PE-CI	Jill Melancon Robin Roberts, CCA,CIT
PR-Marketing	Becky Wynne, CDT Amanda Dawson, CIT
Safety	Lisa Losness Cindy Spiropoulos, CIT
WIC Week	Terri Yslava, CIT Rebecca Thompson, CDS
Bylaws CIT	Tamie Taylor, CDS, CDT, CIT
Credentials	Diane Miller Melanie Myers
Finance	Cindy Johnsen, CDS,CIT Executive Committee
Outside Finance Auditor	Mary Duffy, CCA
Memorials	Angie McNair, CIT Virginia Davis, CIT
NCCER Rep	Nancy Eaton, CCA,CDS,CIT
Parliamentarian	Linda Young, CIT
Strategic Plan	Christie Wigginton, CIT Christine Parsons , CDS,CIT

**2008 - 2009 Chapter Leadership**

Alaska #197	Kris McKinney	<a href="mailto:krismckinney@kw.com">krismckinney@kw.com</a>
Boise #245	Brenda Smith	<a href="mailto:bsmith@pfgworld.com">bsmith@pfgworld.com</a>
Eugene #77	Anne Thompson	<a href="mailto:anne@overheaddoor-eugene.com">anne@overheaddoor-eugene.com</a>
Great Falls #228	Barbara Woith	<a href="mailto:bwafac@yahoo.com">bwafac@yahoo.com</a>
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Puget Sound #60	Nicole Martin	<a href="mailto:nicole.martin@macmillan.com">nicole.martin@macmillan.com</a>
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Spokane #143	Jessica Moody	<a href="mailto:jfode@rowand.com">jfode@rowand.com</a>
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Tri-Cities #192	Stacey Keller	<a href="mailto:skeller@gagrantinc.com">skeller@gagrantinc.com</a>