



Celebrating over 50 years of embracing the success of Women in Construction
Region 14 Newsletter

No. One of RI, Chapter #52

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The President's Message



I would like to thank everyone for your support
Just an overview of NAWIC & what we stand for:

Our core purpose: To enhance the success of women in construction.
NAWIC provides Networking with cutting professionals in the construction industry & gives members a chance to make useful contacts

An active NAWIC member learns through, speakers, seminars, peers & experts. The contacts you make will enhance your development, Personally & Professionally

Community Service

We volunteer in our communities, BLOCK KIDS for the young children, gives them the opportunity to build with lego's, winners are given gift cards. CAD: high school students are given the opportunity to compete for a scholarship.

Member benefits:

Discounts with FED-ex, continuing education thru Lorman, Car rentals, ENR, Office max, and many more

If you are a women owned business or employ women, in the construction filed, consider joining.

Whether you are blue collar, white collar, union or non-union, you have everything to gain from being a member of NAWIC.

We have a web site you can advertise on, sponsorships at our networking events & seminars.

We would be interested in hosting joint events with others
A contact you make may be your next customer or help you find a job.

In closing:

Our core Values:

Believe in ourselves

Persevere with the strength of our convictions

Dare to move to new Horizons

I look forward to the upcoming year with my officers and board members

Sincerely, Carol O'Donnell

Volume 21, issue 22
October-November-December
2011

Nomination Committee

Block Kids
Virginia Bragger

CAD
Lindsey Dejarlais

Membership
Carol O'Donnell, CIT

News letter
Maria Votta

Nominating Committee
TBD by General membership
Professional Education
Chapter Board

Publicity
Carol O'Donnell, CIT-

Webmaster
Linda Hower Bates

WIC Week
Pamela House

Inside this Issue

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Industry Affiliates

- [RI CSI](#)
- [RI AIA](#)
- [RI Builders](#)
- [RI Minority Business Enterprise](#)
- [Center for Women & Enterprise](#)
- [RI AGC](#)
- [Women in Transportation Rhode Island](#)

National officers
For 2011-2012
Nawic Year

RI Chapter Officers
& Directors for
2011-2012 Nawic Year

President:
Judy DeWeese, CBT, CIT

President:
Carol O'Donnell, CIT
CRM modular Homes

President Elect:
Cindy Johnsen, CBT, CIT, CDS

Vice President:
Virginia Bragger
A E Bragger Construction Co Inc

Vice President:
Yasmine A Branden, CCA

Secretary:
Maria Votta – Kenvo Floor Co I

Secretary:
Dove Sifers –Putnam

Treasurer:
Mary Famiglietti, HV Collins

Treasury:
Sandy K. Field, CIT

Directors:

Diane Gibree ARC RI
(formerly RI Blueprint)

Lindsey DesJarlais
Gilbane Building Company

Sophia Meyersiek, Closets etc.

Immediate Past President:
Debra M Gregoire, CIT

Immediate Past President:
Mary Alba, American Family Ins.

NAWIC LOCAL SPONSORS

How to be sponsor NAWICRI details in the works.

NAWIC History

The National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC) originally began as Women in Construction of Fort Worth, Texas. It was founded in 1953 by 16 women working in the construction industry.

Knowing that women represented only a small fraction of the construction industry, the founders organized NAWIC to create a support network.

Women in Construction of Fort Worth was so successful that it gained its national charter in 1955 and became the National Association of Women in Construction.

NAWIC has a membership of more than 4,500 and approximately 167 chapters, with chapters in almost every U.S. state. Since 1996, NAWIC has seen its Core Purpose grow worldwide and has International Affiliation Agreements with the Canadian Association of Women in construction, NAWIC-Australia, NAWIC-New Zealand, NAWIC-United Kingdom and South African Women in Construction. In NAWIC's 55 years of service to its membership, NAWIC has advanced the causes of all women in construction, from tradeswomen to business owners.

On behalf of the **NAWICRI MEMBER COMPANIES** we congratulate you for joining forces to enhance the success of women in the Construction industry. **Believe, Persevere, Dare.**

A.E. Bragger Construction Company

ARC-RI Company (Formerly RI Blue Print)

Closets etc.

CRM Modular Homes

Dimeo Construction Co.

Gilbane Building Company

Great In Counters

H.V. Collins Company Inc

Kenvo Floor Co Inc

Nobadeer Collaborative, LLC

The Hart Companies

USI of New England

12 companies

Special “Welcome Back” Nancy Pelliccione, we are very excited to have you, back!!

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Newly Created Positions

"It's obvious that English language skills are extremely important," Rice emphasizes. "But the ability to be bilingual offers opportunities that never before existed, and those with that extra dexterity are already ahead."

Those on the hiring front-lines agree. "Any additional skill that makes you different is beneficial, and being bilingual is something special," states Sally Hernandez, Sacramento office manager for OfficeTeam.

"In this state, Spanish skills are especially important. We have clients who request bilingual workers, especially in the reception field." Accounting is another sector where interaction with employees and clients is vital. "We worked with a client who required employees who were proficient in other languages because they were soliciting business during tax time," Hernandez recalls. "They needed the bilingual skills to help customers with their taxes."

But there are challenges for the worker who is not comfortable using English as their second language. Very often, a heavy accent can relegate a worker to back-office assignments, until their English becomes more proficient. Hernandez has some tips for the jobseekers trolling for opportunities.

"To make themselves more marketable, jobseekers should do research and go after companies in certain industries that are more geared to hiring bilingual employees," she says. "In other words, fish where the fish are."

Being bilingual in [construction](#) is a handy skill, period. But if you want to get promoted to supervisor or foreman positions, being able to communicate in both Spanish and English is becoming vital in many parts of the country. This varies by location, but in many areas supervisors need to know Spanish and English in order to communicate with the employees they are supervising and their own manager. In addition to being generally fluent in Spanish and English, supervisors and foremen should to be able to communicate job site safety and trade instructions quickly in both languages – you won't have time to pull out a dictionary when someone is violating a safety precaution.

Upcoming Regional & National Events

Leadership Day November 4, 2011 Portsmouth, NH
APC 2011 November 5, 2011 Portsmouth, NH

Spring Forum April 27-29 2012 New York Chapter 1-
Details to follow

59th National Convention 2012 August 29 thru September 1
Sheraton Denver Hotel Denver, Co

Fall Forum November 2012

Spring Forum 2013 –Region 14 Chapter 52 No. One of Rhode
Island to be held in Newport RI- April 5th thru 7th Details in the
works.

60th National Convention 2013 August 28th thru August 31,
Hyatt Regency, Bellevue, Virginia

61st National Convention 2014 September 3 thru September 6,
JW Marriott Indianapolis Downtown, Indianapolis, IN

Upcoming Events in our Local Area

**November 14, 2011: Please join us at tVia Roma
Restaurant, Atwells Ave., Providence, at 6”pm.
Speaker from RI Economic Development Corp
(RIEDC) to give a presentation on how “Office aims
to improve states business climate by making it
easier for small & mid-sized businesses to deal with
state & municipal permitting & regulatory affairs”.**

December 2, 2011: Holiday Bruch. Please join us
at the Squantum Club at 12 noon for a fabulous
reunion with our local and regional members. We
will continue our tradition of donating toys to Toys
for Tots which will be collected by representatives
from the Marines

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Region 14 2011 Regional Committee Chair Women

Block Kids Marjorie Puntillo, Buffalo
#172 mpuntillo@gypsumsys.com

CAD Lindsey Desjarlais, RI #52
desjarlais@gilbaneco.com

C & PE Brenda King Eastern Maine
bking@sheridancorp.com

Membership Catherine-Granite State
#218 staysafetraffic@aol.com

NEF Trustee Karen Long Granite State
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NEF Fund Beth Lorenz Buffalo # 172
elorenz@lpciminelli.com

NEF Liaison Billie Nelson-Clark
bjnelson@cianbro.com

PR Carol O'Donnell, RI #52
cmrmodularhomes@aol.com

Safety & Health Donna Shave, NY
#261 dshave@nycap.rr.com

Strategic Plan Cari Durbin, NY #314
cari6141@aol.com

WIC Pamela House, RI #52
phouse@gilbaneco.com

January 18, 2012: Please join us and CSI for a very interesting tour of Johnson and Whales.

February 12, 2012: Block Kids- School, and time TBD

February 13, 2012: Women's Health – Planning your future- Please join us at Pan e Vino, Atwells Ave., Providence RI

WIC Week March 5, 2012: Providence Marriott Hotel. @ 6:pm

National Association of Women in Construction week celebration – speakers needed

April 23, 2012 Join us at Via Roma Restaurant, Providence RI. OSHA lecture

May 7, 2012 Please join us at Pan e Vino Providence RI at 6:00pm to celebrate and award the winners of CAD

Note: we now have "Pay Pal" for your convenience!!!

Scheduled board meetings:

October 17, 2011- Membership & Board Meeting at 5:30pm

11/1/11 Board meeting at 5:30pm-

January 9th 2012 Board meeting at 5:30pm

Board meetings held at 2143 Hartford Ave. Johnston, unless noted otherwise.



TAKING A LOOK BACK.....

July 2011 was SUMMER vacation for the NAWICRI group.

August 22, 2011, we had a board meeting over Sophia Meyersiek's home, in East Greenwich RI, Sophia was a wonderful hostess, and we were able to plan for the upcoming events and to review our budget to stay on track.

NAWIC'S 56TH Annual National Convention 2011 - August 31 thru Sept. 3, 2011 "AWARDS GALA", "Fundamentals of Success", St. Louis, MO- Renaissance Grand Suites and Hotel. **Carol O'Donnell & Virginia Bragger attended.**

Monday September 12, 2011 we had a board meeting over Carol's office in Johnston, we discuss and plan for the installation of the new officers and directors positions for leadership of our chapter.

Thursday, September 29th we met at TWENTY WATER STREET in East Greenwich RI to celebrate our incoming 2011-2012 RI Chapter Officers & Directors installation with grand success, many of our members attended to welcome the new board.

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Region 14 Chapter Presidents

Thank you Ladies for your Leadership and support!

#15 Boston Chapter
Jamie Niedzolkowski
jsniedzolkowski@arnstrong.com

52 No 1 of Rhode Island
Carol O'Donnell
crmmodularhomes@aol.com

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#276 Maine
Heidi Rodzen
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#314 Greater Rochester New York
Cari Durbin
Cari6141@aol.com

#329 Eastern Maine
Sandra Ferguson
sandy@centralequipment.com



Congratulations to the 2011-2012 Board!

In the picture from Left to right: Dianne Gibree Director, ARC RI.- Maria Votta secretary, Kenvo Floor Co Inc,- Lindsey Desjarlais, Director, Gilbane Bldg Co-Mary Famiglietti, Treasurer, HV Collins-Virginia Bragger Vice President, A.E. Bragger Construction Co- Carol O'Donnell President, CRM Modular Homes- Sophia Meyersiek Director, Closets etc,-Tuni Shartner