

NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION
OF WOMEN IN
CONSTRUCTION

327 S. ADAMS
FORT WORTH, TX
76104

Region 7 Newsletter

REGION 7 — APRIL 2011

APRIL 2011

**THE FIRST
AND MOST
IMPORTANT
STEP
TOWARD
SUCCESS IS
THE FEELING
THAT WE
CAN
SUCCEED. ”**
*Nelson
Boswell*

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Director's Comments



Wow!

All I can say is 'FANTASTIC"! If you missed Region 7 Forum in San Antonio you missed a lot. We had a record breaking attendance of 111, and we elected a new Director-Elect. Congratulations to Gracie Narey, CIT for being elected Region 7 Director for 2011-2013.

Friday morning started with close to 20 members taking NEF exams. I am very proud to say that this was the second year we have offered NEF testing at Forum (minimum of 10 required).

The seminars on Friday afternoon were both big hits, especially the Self Defense Class. The Welcome

Party and Scavenger Hunt were fun (even when the A/C went out) and really brought out the competitiveness in some of our members. The general session on Saturday included a very warm welcome from the Mayor of San Antonio, Julian Castro, and a terrific keynote speaker, Terry Brechtel, former San Antonio City Manager.

The day was not without a few surprises. Well, I was surprised anyway. I thought I had control of the meeting, following the agenda, and approaching lunch only to find myself kidnapped by a pirate. No harm, I was released and resumed the meeting on schedule immediately following lunch.

The next surprise came with the synchronized swimming performed by the Tulsa Chapter. All I can say is I sure wish there was a video camera in the room. Their bid for Forum 2013 was like no other. Needless to say, the Region voted to go to Tulsa for Forum 2013 after such an

entertaining performance.

Thanks so much to Jennifer Swinney and Sandee Morgan for co-chairing the Forum Committee. You certainly surpassed my expectations and made it a memorable weekend for everyone. And I for one will never think of 'memberSHIP' the same again.

And finally, thanks to all Region 7 members for your great support during my term as Director. Thanks also for your participation in my campaign for NAWIC Treasurer. I was overwhelmed by your generosity at Forum. With your kind support, I am able to continue this journey of serving the membership. For the parting gifts, the signed Region 7 photo, the beautiful crystal bowl and gorgeous yellow roses, my heart is full of gratitude. Thanks so much for the friendship and the memories!!!!

Warm regards,
Sandy

Region 7 Director 2009 – 2011

Sandy K. Field, CIT, CBT

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Around the Region

Fort Worth Chapter #1—*Pat Meadors, President*

How the time is flying! Well, as they say time flies when you are having a good time! I know that a good time was had by all last weekend at the Region 7 Annual Forum hosted by the San Antonio Chapter. The ladies did a fabulous job and have really raised the bar for future forums.

The attendance for the weekend was 111 women! I am proud to report that the Fort Worth Chapter had 22 ladies in attendance!! One of which is now the Region 7 Director-Elect!! Congratulations to Gracie Narey, CIT!!!!

I am sure we will be talking about this forum for months! On Friday, member Traci Robinson, CIT, CBT, took her first CCA exam, Tammy Crooks and myself took the CIT exam. Lets all cross out fingers..... Members also had the opportunity to participate in a HR seminar, "Progressive Discipline" or a Personal Safety seminar called "More Than Hard Hats and PPE".

On Saturday, during committee business member Traci Robinson, CIT, CBT Region 7 WIC Week Chair shared her slideshow of WIC Week events turned in by all the chapters. All chapter presidents were adorned with NA-WIC hats and microphone trophies!

To round out the weekend the members attended a Pirate Banquet. Members had the chance to dress up and have their picture done by a caricaturist or have their palms and cards read...

It was my pleasure to accept longevity pins for members Lucille Pumphrey who has been a member for 35 years and Kathryn Oestricher who has been a member for 25 years. Please take a moment to visit with these women as they are a fountain of information and inspiration!

If you are interested in running for a board position please contact Sharon Murphy, Ashley Hair or Shannon Rogers to get on the ballot. The May dinner meeting will be when we have "Meet the Candidate night". Please make sure to get the date on your calendars!

The 27th Annual NAWIC Golf Tournament will be **Monday, June 20, 2011** at Sky Creek Ranch in Keller, TX. The chapter is in need of a title sponsor by April 30th. Please contact Karolene if you know of any company that is or may be interested. At this time I would like to re-iterate my challenge to all members: to acquire a Tee Box Sign sponsor for \$200. We can do it!!!!

Mark your calendars the next committee meeting will be on Monday, May 2nd at the TEXO office. If you have any goody bag or raffle prize items please bring them to the monthly meeting, committee meeting or call and we can arrange to pick it up.

Dallas Chapter #2—*Jill Melancon, President*

NAWIC Dallas Chapter #2 participated in the recent CrestEXPO Trade Show in Irving, TX and enjoyed much success with the number of women who visited our booth. They came from all walks of the "construction" industry and were eager to learn about an association geared towards enhancing the success of women in construction. We collected over (40) business cards and have already begun reaching out to these women to share more about our upcoming meetings, educational offerings, business opportunities, and much more.

I recently met with Marissa Sanchez of the US Department of Transportation. She wants to partner with our chapter to offer their "Women and Girls Entrepreneurial Training and Technical Assistance Internship Program" to our members in college. Of course, I invited her to display at our upcoming Industry Appreciation/Mini Trade Fair on May 16, 2011 at the MCM Elegante Hotel, 2330 W. Northwest Hwy, Dallas, TX 75220. Marissa will also be applying for our chapter scholarship to help her towards her degree. I forwarded the internship information to the SMU ladies I met during WIC Week at the SMU Career Fair. NAWIC is all about women helping other women!

Houston Chapter #3—*Jody Richwine, President*

If you missed Forum you missed a fantastic event! Thank you, San Antonio, for your hospitality and for putting on such a terrific event. I always come away from the regional and national events with such a renewed enthusiasm for NAWIC. Houston has big shoes to fill for 2012, but we are up to the task and excited for all of you to join us for Forum 2012. Save the date - April 13 - 15, 2012!

Houston is getting ready for our next CPR/First Aid class on Thursday, April 28th. Engineering Safety Consultants puts on an excellent class. Thank you, Jennifer Swinney!

Around the Region - Continued

We are continuing to work on membership. Cathy McDow has worked extremely hard, and it shows! She makes sure each guest has our NAWIC information. Rose Dailing gets our meeting notices in the Houston newspapers and that has been a big plus for us. We are now 40 members strong with another guest from this month's meeting ready to join. I am very proud to say that all of our members have taken the time to make sure that our guests feel welcome at our meetings.

We are looking forward to a presentation on sustainable design by Gensler Architects for our May meeting.

Corpus Christi Chapter #4—Lisa Huerta, President

Greetings!

What a great Forum! Thank you San Antonio Chapter for a great time! The Corpus Christi Chapter is continuing with our CAD project. Our next meeting will be held April 19, 2010. Some of our members will be attending Communities in Schools day at the Corpus Christi Hooks (baseball) game on Thursday, May 5, 2011.

Austin Chapter #7—Jennifer Morton, President

Can you believe it's already April & Region 7 Forum has come & gone! Austin Chapter sent seven (7) members to Forum in San Antonio this month. Kudos, Hats Off, and Heart Felt THANKS to San Antonio for planning and executing a flawless Forum!

Austin Chapter member Shelly Masters presented interesting legal case studies at our recent April Chapter Dinner Meeting. It was an interactive session where we got to be the judge.....OK, not really since the case has been ruled on, but we did get to voice our opinion on the "fairness" of the law and is/was the law fair in certain construction related cases.

Our WIC week activities carried over into April with one more activity; delivery of welding machines to the Crockett High School Construction Technology Department. Praxair graciously donated two (2) welding machines and all accessories needed for the kids to start burnin' rod and stringers! Needless to say, the students AND teacher were ecstatic to receive the equipment.

We're forging ahead with "Keep Austin Weird" APC 2011 planning. Make arrangements to come to the Live Music Capital of the World and "BE WEIRD"---no one will tell or even notice!

San Antonio Chapter #11—Sandee Morgan, CDS, CIT, CBT, President

April Fool's Day, Forum, Fiesta, Easter.....there is so much going on this month. The San Antonio Chapter was honored to host the 2011 Region 7 Forum at the Crowne Plaza Riverwalk Hotel April 7th through 9th. It was extra special because this was Sandy Field's last Forum as Regional Director. Sandy has been a mentor to so many members of our chapter and we really wanted to honor her by making this event extra special. We had a great time with the pirate theme and everyone got into the spirit of the occasion when they dressed for the banquet Saturday night! LOL - You ladies definitely made your presence known on the Riverwalk in San Antonio! One of the proudest moments of the weekend was our own Alice Dolle being presented her 50 Year pin at the banquet! So much happened during those 3 days....if I wrote about it all it would take up 10 pages! Make sure you check out our Facebook page for all of the photos!

Normally our Chapter participates in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure but this year we are all exhausted and have decided to have a "Sleep-in for the Cure" from Friday, April 29 at 6:00 p.m. until Saturday, April 30, 12:00 p.m. Lots of fun is planned.... movies, games and prizes, hamburgers, hotdogs, along with popcorn, s'mores, etc... Mimosas and pastries will be served on Saturday morning! I can't even imagine all of the fun that will happen when we lock this group up for a huge slumber party to benefit the Susan G. Komen Foundation!

I am so proud to be a member of the San Antonio Chapter; our group truly takes the Core Purpose and Core Values of NAWIC to heart - "Enhancing the Success of Women in the Construction Industry" and "Believe. Persevere. Dare.". We not only believe in lifting our members up and working with them to achieve the goals they set for themselves, but more importantly, not tearing each other down to accomplish those goals. I truly hope that each of you has that same support and sisterhood in your own chapters. I know I am truly blessed to be a member of both the San Antonio Chapter and this Association. Happy Easter!

Around the Region - Continued

Waco Chapter #14 - *Ginger Ritchison, President*

After our 6 members returned from Annual Forum in San Antonio they were on a NAWIC High. Everyone had a great time and now are excited about recruiting new members and doubling our membership from last year.

Our Wine and Cheese Tasting Party was a success. We had two guests, who have previously attended meetings, and both of them signed up that night. We are really excited about the growth our chapter has seen this year.

Our Blocks Kids Contest Entry won second place in the region. We invited him and his family to attend our meeting in May to receive his trophy. The local newspaper will be contacted to see if they will do a story about Jacob. He is eligible to enter the contest for one more year before he goes into the 7th grade. He has entered and won several times.

We will have our election of officers in May and also volunteer to help build a house for Habitat for Humanity on May 14th.

Our speaker for the May meeting will be Laura Sumrall with Baylor University Psychology Department and she will talk about Navigating the New Electronic Lingo.

Tulsa Chapter #76 - *Joani Kelly, President*

First of all, many many thanks to the fabulous San Antonio Chapter for an outstanding Forum 2011. The seminars, welcome party, speakers, events and banquet were the best ! Tulsa had eleven members in attendance and we all had a great time visiting with our NAWIC sisters. Jennifer Swinney, Sandee Morgan and the rest of the Forum Committee are to be applauded for a fantastic event !!

I have to say a very special thank you to Miela Stephens, our WIC Week Chair and Membership Chair. We took a chance on the Rosie the Riveter calendar project and are so happy that it was recognized as the most unique project to promote WIC Week 2011 !! We are so proud of our calendar and hope you had a chance to purchase one during Chapter sales at Forum – If not, give us a call and place your order today. Remember that a portion of the proceeds will go to NEF.

We also received honors for the Chapter with the highest retention, honors for our contributions to WIC week and for participating 100% as a Chapter in our Regional goals. Thank you Miela for your hard work on the Membership Committee this year. We will be installing eight new members at our April meeting this month !! Thanks to everyone that helped from the Mardi Gras Mixer to the calendar signing, great work ladies !!

We received third place for Block Kids this year and are thrilled for our winner. We have held our Block Kids contest at Jane Addams Elementary for as long as I can remember and it is likely that the school will be closing this year. We are glad that our Jane Addams student will be able to go out with a 3rd place victory !!! Thanks to Lisa Haney for her passion for Block Kids program and for the kids at Jane Addams we've come to know and love over the years. Great job Lisa !!

Our next meeting will be April 19th and we are thrilled to have the opportunity to hear this speaker. Our speaker will be **Robin Flint Ballenger**, the third generation chairperson of Flintco and the first woman to hold the position. "It is wonderful to be able to be a part of something that can change the skyline of the city, to be able to watch and be a part of a project that starts at nothing and takes shape and becomes filled with people whose lives are enriched by the buildings we've built," Ballenger said. "It's a thrill." The Tulsa Chapter currently has three Flintco employees so we are really looking forward to showing Ms. Ballenger what NAWIC is all about !

Around the Region - Continued

Port Arthur-Golden Triangle Chapter #377 - Pam Washington, President

As the Tortoise and Hare story goes, "**Slowly does it some time**" Port Arthur Golden Triangle (PA-GT) NAWIC Chapter 377 started running like the Hare and because of numerous economic set backs we had to slow it down. We still feel like the winning tortoise because within the last few months, despite the job market conditions we have had two new members to join our chapter. Our newest member Teresa Rocknic attended the PA-GT NAWIC 377 April 2011 general meeting. Teresa is a student from Lamar University and brings a lot of excitement and resources with her for our chapter. She is the president of the Lamar Construction Management Club at Lamar University. "**Welcome Teresa Rocknic**". We are so glad to have you.

PA-GT NAWIC Chapter 377 had two members (Betty Keith and Beverly Hatcher) attend the Region 7 Forum in San Antonio, Texas. Betty and Beverly presented a fabulous report regarding the forum at our April 2011 general meeting. "**Thank You Beverly and Betty**" for representation at forum. "**Special Thanks**" goes out to **Ms. Beverly Hatcher** for donating an Easter Basket for our chapter sales. Congratulations to Beverly for winning the forum Scavenger Hunt - Yeah!!!

Our newest member Teresa Rocknic inquired about a speaker for a Career Forum at Lamar University for the Construction Management Club. PA-GT NAWIC Chapter 377 was able to arrange for several construction managers from the Motiva CEP site to attend and speak at the Career Forum.

PA-GT NAWIC 377 would also like to Thank "**Eric Bryant**", HR manager for Jacobs Engineering Group for speaking at our April 2011 general meeting on "Do's and Don'ts for resume writing in the construction industry. With projects starting and stopping continuously, we are encouraging our members to keep an updated resume at all times.

We are in the process of trying to get a tour set up of a women owned construction business in the golden triangle area for next month. More information about the tour will be in next month's newsletter. Stay Tuned.

PA-GT NAWIC 377 would like to congratulate our new Region 7 Director-Elect, Gracie Narey, CIT, and give Best Wishes to our outgoing Director, Sandy Field. We love you Both.

Wishing everyone a Safe and Happy Easter



2011 Crystal Vision and Crystal Achievement Award winners selected

NAWIC has named its 2011 Crystal Vision and Crystal Achievement Award winners. Colleen White, president of Strategic Workplace Solutions, Inc., was selected to receive the 2011 Crystal Vision Award. Renee Conner, CIT, president of Precision Tapping, Inc. and co-founder of Mentoring a Girl in Construction™ (MAGIC) Camp, will be awarded the 2011 Crystal Achievement Award.

NAWIC will present White and Conner with their awards during its **56th Annual Convention** in St. Louis, Mo. at the Crystal Vision Awards Gala. The Gala will be held Saturday, Sept. 3, 2011 at the Renaissance St. Louis Grand Hotel. The Convention will run Aug. 31-Sept. 3, 2011.

The Crystal Vision Awards Program recognizes individuals for their outstanding achievements in advancing the role of women in the construction industry. The Crystal Vision Award is presented to a non-member of NAWIC, and the Crystal Achievement Award is presented to a member of the Association.

Region 7 Forum 2012



Region 7 Forum 2012 - Continued



Region 7 New Members



Welcome Region 7 New Members!

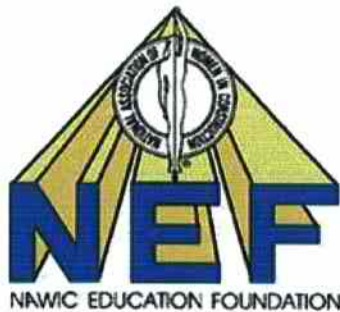


| <u>New Member</u> | <u>Chapter</u> | <u>Recruiter</u> |
|--------------------|--|---|
| Liz Montes | Fort Worth Chapter #1 | Jennifer Swinney |
| Titilola Ajisafe | Dallas Chapter #2 | Jill Melancon and Francine Hawkins-Alegeh |
| Britanie Olvera | Austin Chapter #7 | |
| Alyssa Fitz | San Antonio Chapter #11 | Sandee Morgan |
| Lee Anne Keim | San Antonio Chapter #11 | |
| Lauren Marshall | San Antonio Chapter #11 | Terri Pasley |
| Cynthia Tarver | San Antonio Chapter #11 | Dana Calonge |
| Jennifer Daily | Waco Chapter #14 | Rhonda Nebgen |
| Gwendalyn Gebhardt | Waco Chapter #14 | Rhonda Nebgen |
| Teresa Morgan | Tulsa Chapter #76 | Leslie Allen |
| Polly Bennett | Tulsa Chapter #76 | Sandra Winn |
| Teresa Rocknic | Port Arthur—Golden Triangle Chapter #377 | |
| Gabriela Varela | Student-at-Large | Terri Pasley |

If you are not listed as the recruiter and should be, please have the new member contact Lauri McCullough at the NAWIC Office to add you as the recruiter. laurim@nawic.org This must be done by the new member, not the recruiter.

Remember, every member is a recruiter! Invite your business associates, co-workers and friends to give NAWIC a try.

Dare +++++ Believe +++++ Persevere





**National Association
of Women in Construction**

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Region 7 Chapter Presidents 2010 - 2011

Fort Worth Chapter #1

Pat Meadors
pat@texoassociaiton.org

Dallas Chapter #2

Jill Melancon
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Houston Chapter #3

Jody Richwine
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Corpus Christi Chapter #4

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San Antonio Chapter #11

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Tulsa Chapter #76

Joani Kelly
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*Port Arthur-Golden Triangle
Chapter #377*

Pamela Washington
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Upcoming Events

NAWIC's 56th Annual Convention
August 31 – September 3, 2011
Renaissance Grand & Suites Hotel
St. Louis, MO

Region 7 APC 2011
Holiday Inn Austin Midtown
October 21 - 22, 2011
Austin, TX

Region 7 Forum 2012
Sheraton Houston Brookhollow
Houston, TX
April 13 - 15, 2012

More Information

2010 - 2011 Region 7 Committee Chairs

Membership:

Jennifer Swinney, CDS, CIT, CBT
jswinney@esc-safety.com
 Co-chair: Sandee L. Morgan, CDS, CIT, CBT
sandedal@yahoo.com

Construction Profession & Education:

Rebecca Manzel
ewers.roofers@sbcglobal.com

WIC Week:

Traci Robinson, CIT, CBT
traci@midwestwrecking.net

Safety & Health:

Lynda Dodson
L.dodson@sbcglobal.net

PR/Marketing:

Gala Burns
gburns@worthamsa.com

Strategic Planning:

Gracie Narey, CIT
gnarey@aol.com

NEF Fundraiser:

Tamara Crooks
tcrooks1@aol.com

NEF Liaison:

Katie Loughmiller, CIT
kloughmiller@acitexas.com

NEF Block Kids:

Chair: Robynn Lehr
rengland@tsbyrne.com

NEF CAD/Drafting

Barbara Taylor, CIT
Barbara@jmdavidson.com

If you should have any information you wish to have included in the Region Newsletter please submit to me by the first of each month. The purpose of this newsletter is to communicate that which is of interest to the members in the region and keep us informed of NAWIC news, dates and events.

Future Convention Dates & Locations

August 31—September 3, 2011

Renaissance Grand and Suites Hotel, St. Louis, MO

August 29—September 1, 2012

Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel, Denver, CO

August 28—August 31, 2013

Hyatt Regency Bellevue, Bellevue, WA

September 3—September 6, 2014

J.W. Marriott Indianapolis Downtown, Indianapolis, IN

September 2 - September 5, 2015

Omni Hotel, Nashville, TX

Cindy Johnsen, CBT, CDS, CIT *Candidate for NAWIC National President-Elect*



Greetings, Region 7 NAWIC members! The time is nearing for you to review the candidates running for office and to imagine the future look of NAWIC. NAWIC must embrace the present as we imagine our future growth and develop into the association of choice for all women in the construction industry. Through our membership, NAWIC continues to provide strong support for women in construction. Our leaders must be connected with the membership since our members are our best resource to achieve this growth.

My five years on the Board of Directors has allowed me to learn more about our association than I ever thought possible. This has included two years as Treasurer dealing with our finances. Now as your Vice President, I serve as committee coordinator while serving alongside President Gregoire. In my role working with the committee chairs, it is even more apparent how integral mentoring is to the NAWIC culture. As a result of being mentored by some truly remarkable women, I will pay it forward by continuing to work with members to help them identify their strengths so that they will succeed in arenas they never thought possible. My strengths include the ability to effectively listen and communicate as well as thinking strategically and being a team player. I live my values – integrity, honesty, character, fairness, accountability, and vision – all values that a leader of our association requires.

"I am running for the office of President-Elect to utilize my proven strengths and experience to increase the value of membership and to champion NAWIC so we become the association of choice for women in the construction industry."

Come June, you will receive your ballot via e-mail or in the mail. Exercise your duty as a member; vote for the person you feel best suited for the office of President-Elect to continue NAWIC moving forward. As a responsible, professional, and dedicated member, I appreciate your support and look forward to the opportunity to take NAWIC to its next level of success.

Cast your vote for Cindy Johnsen, CBT, CDS, CIT
for NAWIC President-Elect 2011-2012
cindy.johnsen@gcinc.com ♦ Office: 760.391.-6238

RIKI F. LOVEJOY, CBT, CIT
FOR PRESIDENT – ELECT

The phenomenal members of this Association have inspired our leaders to believe NAWIC will be a powerful resource in our industry. Our Association's Big Audacious Goal reflects a belief that NAWIC will be the global resource for the construction industry.

NAWIC has been an integral part of my personal and professional development throughout my construction career. As the owner of a small construction management consulting company with contracts across the nation, I've learned the significance of "global resource" and how this is essential to my success and the success of every member in this Association.

My goal is to assist members in believing in themselves and achieve their goals for success in our industry through education, networking opportunities and leadership development.



I BELIEVE
AND
I WANT TO BE YOUR STRONG VOICE THAT HELPS US ACHIEVE!

Yasmine A. Branden, CCA

for

NAWIC Vice President



As we enter the 2011 – 2012 NAWIC year I look forward to us building on our successes. We will strive to increase NAWIC's visibility in our industry, expand our vision, embrace our ever-changing industry, inspire others to make construction their career choice, all the while honoring our association's integrity and passion.

Cast your ballot for Yasmine Branden for NAWIC Vice President!

Candidate for NAWIC Secretary

Dove Sifers-Putman



Member of NAWIC since 1996—Charlotte, NC #121
Various positions on Chapter board
Regional CAD/Drafting Chairman
Regional WIC Week Chairman
Regional Membership Chairman
National CAD/Drafting Chairman
Red Rose Recruiter
Region 11 Director 2009-2011

Dependable
Observant
Voracious
Enthusiastic

Sandy K. Field, CIT, CBT
Candidate for
NAWIC Treasurer
2011 – 2012



Serving as Director 2009 – 2011 has not only given me a much greater knowledge of our association, its purpose and goals, but it has given me a desire to continue this journey in serving and to help lead us into the years to come and to pave the way for women to succeed in the construction industry.

I joined NAWIC in February 2005 and have served as Director, Corresponding Secretary, Vice President and two terms as President of the Houston Chapter. I have also served at Region 7 Construction Profession and Education Chair.

My career in the construction industry spans over the past 28 years. I have worked with three different homebuilder firms and am currently with a general contractor in Houston. My career positions have included accountant, full charge bookkeeper, marketing manager, office manager, vice president/general manager and custom homebuilder. I was instrumental in converting the three homebuilders from manual bookkeeping to computerized systems.

Other trade associations/organizations I have been involved in include The Builders Association of the Corpus Christi Area (BACC), Texas Association of Builders (TAB) and the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB). Current memberships include Associated General Contractors Houston Chapter (AGC), Society for Marketing Professional Services (SMPS) and Association of Commercial Real Estate Professionals (ACRP).

My community service includes serving for six years on the Building Standards Board of the City of Corpus Christi, chairing the Board for three of those years.

My experience in the industry, as well as in trade associations, has helped me grow on all levels and I believe gives me qualifications and skills to serve as NAWIC Treasurer. After all, accounting brought me into the industry.

I am committed and dedicated to serving with our leadership team to utilize our resources for the benefit of the members and our association.

Your support and vote will be greatly appreciated.