

# 2011 Forum in Branson

Yakita Haynes

WOW! Is all I can say from the time we arrived in Branson, Missouri Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup> to the departure Sunday May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Everything I'm experiencing with NAWIC is a first time for me. So if I sound too excited now you know.

## Friday May 20, 2011

Registration was Friday along with Opening Ceremonies at 1:00 PM. Forum was called to order to with the national anthem; pledge of allegiance and introduction of the head table by Connie Leipard. Debbie Speake Southwest Mo #366 Chapter President welcomed us to forum; Raeanne Presley Mayor of Branson welcomed NAWIC to their city. Connie Leipard Region 6 Director introduced the first guest speaker of the day, Mr. Kirk Elmquist of Morelock-Rock Companies, "Women and Men Working Together in Construction". He was such a "HOOT". Kirk stated as "WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION" we need to start asking better questions. We should ask "A" or "B" questions; not questions that require Yes or No answers. He wrapped up his speech with a story about his son and daughter. Kirk wants to teach Cross, his son, how to a better man, father and responsible person. So he's teaching him when and when not to speak with dealing with Women in general.

As we continued into the afternoon our Parliamentary, Alise Martiny, read the adoption of forum rules and the adoption of the forum program. We then headed into our Team Building Exercise called "Tallest Tower". We broke into groups of 6 and were given instructions as if this was a construction project with a schedule. The directions were as follows:



Each group had 15 minutes to build the tallest tower out of the supplies given in an envelope.

Every group was responsible for building a tower out of paper cups, bowls, plates, straws, tape, and paper clips. This was very challenging; little did we know you could ask other groups to swap out materials. This goes back to we should ask better questions. When the projects started the question never arises. Least to say Group "4" had the "Tallest Standing Tower". The towers had to stand by themselves with no help.

We ended our Friday day of meetings with Strategic Planning and came up with goals for Region #6 (see attached)

Now it was time for some WINERY FUN, I have never been to winery so I was excited to see what it was about. The first person we meet was Wally who was took us on our tour throughout Stone Hill Winery. Wally and Bob (I think that was his name) were two amazing men that seem to really enjoy what they do. So I tasted wine and who could ever imagined so much fun. I also was with a group of FANTASTIC LADIES. Ladies you really know how to have a good time. Thank You.



Of course we couldn't end the day without dinner so we went to Landry's were RJ was such a lush and flirt. At dinner we celebrated Sandra Carters birthday just the St. Louis ladies and Rod. We had a ball. I thought for a minute they were going to put us out. As I stated THOUGHT (JUST A JOKE).



After dinner some of the ladies continued to the Hospitality Suite for some mingling and fun. I myself was tired so I called it a night.

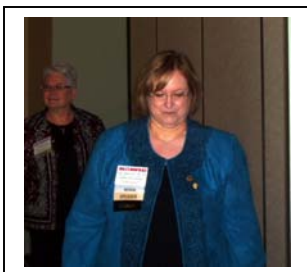
The ladies stated they had a good time that night.

### Saturday May 21, 2011

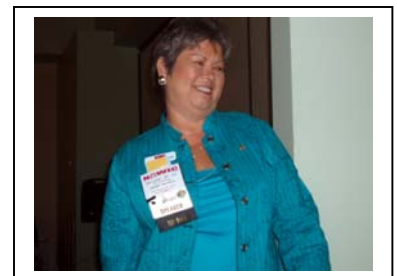
We started our morning out with the breakfast buffet that was included with the hotel stay and then headed on to Chapter Sales. Sandra Carter had a table set up for NEF and Scholarship raffling off a basket full of goodies.

Our morning started with the reading of the final credentials report by Vanessa Beaman of Southwest MO chapter.

Connie Leopard introduced our next guest speaker Kari Stewart of High Point People Company who spoke about, "THE COST OF CONFLICT". This was followed by the importance of voting in our national elections by Alise Martiny Region 6 Parliamentarian. Connie introduced us to our national officer candidates and reminded us to vote when the ballots are received in the mail, this was followed by our Regional Caucus. Sandy Field, who is running for Treasurer was also present, but is un-opposed.



Cindy Johnson CDS, CIT, CT  
Candidate for NAWIC President Elect



Ricki Lovejoy CT, CIT  
Candidate for NAWIC President Elect

Now it was time for some “HANDS ON PROJECTS”. We had the pleasure of having Home Depot with us doing a demonstration on Faux Wall Finish and Painting and Mike Leipard of Quality Drywall with Drywall Repair 101. During each of these breakout sessions we had the opportunity to participate hands on. We had fun fixing a hole in the drywall. Now we all know how to patch a hole in our walls at home.



We broke for lunch at noon followed by the Bid for 2013 Forum by our Greater Wichita chapter. Motion was made and approved. Forum for 2013 will be in Wichita Kansas.

The reports were read for the following:

Presidents Report; Mid Year Board Report; Directors Report; Treasurer’s Report; Directors Fund Report; P.R. & Marketing Report; Membership Report and the NEF Reports.

The remainder of our afternoon would include 3 additional seminars that we had the choice of choosing two to participate in. Seminar #1 Super Sleuth presented by Jennifer Swinney Region #7 Safety Chair. Seminar #2 Toot, Toot, Toot Your Horn presented by Ricki Lovejoy NAWIC Secretary. Seminar #3 Circle of Loyalty presented by Connie Leipard.

I personally choose Supper Sleuth and Circle of Loyalty. Overall both seminars were informative and I earned my badge Swinney’s Safety Sleuth by participating in the Super Sleuth seminar. I also came home with knowledge and understanding of Circle of Loyalty and how it works in the workplace.

We had so much going on and the day was coming to an end for Seminars and meeting. The last unfinished business was the **St. Louis Chapter’s 2012 Forum Site Presentation and Invitation**. Patty Cook drew the smallest stick or should I say I kind of pushed her into doing it. As she would say I threw her under the bus. I couldn’t have thought of a better person to give this invite. She was definitely the perfect match and might I add she does it so well. Thank You Patty Cook for putting that together. Love You Girlie.

Cindy Johnsen did a formal Invitation to **Convention in St. Louis August 31, 2011 to September 3, 2011**.

We had no new business and the meeting was adjourned until the Awards Banquet Dinner.

### **Saturday Night Awards Dinner and Banquet**

This evening started with the Inspiration given by Me Kita Haynes. As many of you know I have never stood up in the front of a group of people and given any speech before now. NERVOUS AS ALL GET OUT but with the help of our NAWIC sisters I can say I survived!

# Awards!

The following awards were given out:

Block Kids Region 6 Award Winner

Cad/Build/ Design Region 6 Winner – (St. Louis Chapter 38) “CAD HAND DRAFTING CONTEST WINER – Michael Cimo Oakville High

Region 6 Safety Award

Region 6 WIC Week Chapter Award – (All the Chapters submitted and Won) “WIC WEEK AWARD” Best Education Event = Construction Career Center High School

Region 6 Community Service Awards – (St. Louis Chapter 38) “COMMUNITY BENEFIT AWARD” = Construction

Region 6 Construction Industry Award

Region 6 “Crystal Vision “Award

Region 6 “Rookie of the Year” Award

Region 6 “Member of the Year” Award

So as you can see St. Louis came home with 3 awards

Region 6 received many awards this year. NAWIC Ladies TRUELY “ROCK”

We ROCK so hard that we ROCKED the MIKE for KARIOKE NIGHT ENDING THE CELEBRATION WITH Fun, laughter and of course some cocktails

WE ARE FAMILY, I GOT ALL MY SISTERS IN ME  
WE ARE FAMILY; I GOT ALL MY NAWIC SISTERS WITH ME.

What a FANTASIC TIME I had and “Thank You” for allowing me the opportunity to attend this event.



**BE SURE TO GO TO THE REGION AND CHAPTER WEBSITES TO SEE ALL THE PICTURES!**

**National Association of Women in Construction  
Region 6 Strategic Plan  
May 20, 2011**

**CORE PURPOSE:**

**To enhance the success of women in construction in Region 6.**

**Goals**

This Strategic Plan is an envisioned future of this region from 6 months to 3 years. Four Goals are listed, including some Strategies to assist in achieving these Goals.

		<u>Target Date</u>
Goal 1:	Each Chapter will create an elevator speech or unique personal statement (UPS) for use by their members. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Craft the message.</li> <li>• Practice and use at one meeting.</li> </ul>	APC 2011
Goal 2:	The Region will increase membership retention to 75%. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mentoring.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Buddy system.</li> <li>▪ Member Care chairperson.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Encourage new ideas and embrace change.</li> <li>• Personalization – meeting post cards, phone calls.</li> <li>• Focused meetings.</li> <li>• Conduct survey on what the members need.</li> <li>• Involve newer members in committees.</li> <li>• Chapter strategic plan.</li> </ul>	Forum 2014
Goal 3:	The Region will increase membership by 20% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to market better to the employer.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Networking opportunities.</li> <li>▪ Involve employer in NAWIC events.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Wear name badges to non-NAWIC events.</li> <li>• NAWIC tag line on e-mail signature block.</li> <li>• Utilize free marketing literature from national.</li> </ul>	Forum 2014
Goal 4:	The Region will increase regional meeting participation to 60 members. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registration and hotel must be affordable.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Special pricing for guests.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Encourage member to invest in themselves.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Personal development.</li> <li>▪ Leadership skills.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Communicate to members the agenda in advance.</li> <li>• Competition on guests brought to meeting.</li> <li>• Create buddy system.</li> <li>• Communicate value of attending to employer.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Share newsletters, NAWIC Image.</li> <li>▪ Report back to employer after attending.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Forum 2014