



## **Jennifer Sproul President's Report April 2015**

We started 2014-2015 with losing about a dozen of our members from last year, but as on 4/13/15, we are back up to 40 members. We are hopeful that by continuing to provide *Value* to our members, as Doreen and Leah showed us, that we can retain these ladies and build further upon them.

Our meetings this year have been varied, more so than in the past, which may be a factor in our chapter's growth. Most of our events have had about 25 attendees at them, with one or two events having only 16-18 women in attendance. Our most-attended event was our bowling tournament during WIC Week which had 65 registered attendees.

Our meetings have been as follows:

- September "Kick-off party": football themed event at Stony Run Steakhouse at which we installed the board and Suzanne shared some of the public speaking tips from AMEC
- NAWIC Oktoberfest: networking, carnival games, beer, dinner and a PD&E update at the Red Brick Station – VERY well attended
- November – Marketing Green lecture and dinner at Of Love & Regret: presentation by Ida Cheinman of Substance!51 on branding your company as "green"
- December – Holiday Party at the Harp: dinner, a white elephant gift exchange, and charity collection for teachers' supplies for Baltimore City Schools
- January – Getting Fiscally Fit: Presentation by Tim Baker of SOFA (Society for Financial Awareness) and dinner at Union Jacks
- Block Kids at Kennedy Krieger: over 160 participants, 30 volunteers, 5 sponsor companies, and an appearance by the Ravens Mascot
- February – Love your Life – Achieving a work/life balance. Dinner catered by Rouge, with a presentation by Cheryl Eibner of Dale Carnegie on how to bring your personal life in balance with your work commitments. This was our second Dale Carnegie event in two years.
- March – WIC Week:
  - Our chapter did our best to keep the topic of women in construction on everyone's minds throughout WIC Week – and beyond, thanks to Mother Nature. We sent out daily emails with the week's activities summarized on them, as well as a "myth" about women in construction. These myths and activities were also posted to Facebook and LinkedIn.
  - Two of our events for the week had to be postponed to the following week due to snow and ice, but they were successful nonetheless!
  - Our Tuesday night event was the 3rd annual charity bowling tournament co-hosted with the SMPS Maryland chapter. This amazingly fun event was attended by over 65 bowlers, sponsored by 10 different companies and organizations, including BGE, a subsidiary to Exelon, a NAWIC national sponsor. BGE had a full team of female utility workers, their first-ever NAWIC event. In all, we raised \$5000 for our charity, Project JumpStart, a pre-apprenticeship training program for Baltimore City residents. We doubled our



donation from last year! In addition, we raised \$370 for NEF by selling raffle tickets at the event.

- On Wednesday, we tried something very new for our chapter: a lunch n learn event. Trimble demonstrated their digital layout technology to a dozen women in person over lunch, but in addition, we utilized Webex to broadcast the seminar live to another dozen attendees, including coworkers on NAWIC members. Remote attendees were able to see both the PowerPoint and video of the presenter, as well as ask questions.
- Thursday night, we hosted a Hard Hat Happy Hour with AIABaltimore's Women in Architecture group at the Twist & Turn Tavern. In addition to getting to know our female counterparts a little better, myself (Jennifer Sproul) and our chapter Vice President, Corey McGrath, were guest bartenders. Our tips were donations to our chapter Scholarship Fund. We raised \$132 in tips, as well as 10% of the proceeds from the night, which totaled \$200. In addition, we also raised another \$203 for NEF through raffle ticket sales, making our total raised for NEF \$573 during WIC Week.
- On Friday, we encouraged our members, as well as our member's companies, to wear red or a NAWIC shirt to work. We then posted the pictures to Facebook with WIC Week-themed hashtags.

Our upcoming events are:

- April 21: Wine & Signs at Boordy Vineyards. Attendees will be treated to a wine-tasting event, with souvenir wine glass, and dinner catered by the Corner Pantry. After networking, we will hear about the latest in signage and lighting technology.
- April 22: Building Congress & Exchange Construction Industry Expo: NAWIC will have a booth at this event, hoping to attract more members.
- May 12: NAWIC Industry Appreciation Night: awards ceremony, along with an inspiring presentation by Page Harrington, Executive Director of Sewall-Belmont House & Museum on the History of Women's Issues & Struggle for Equality
- June 23: 4-Step Guide to MBE Success, a lunchtime panel and exhibition featuring certification, procurement, prequalification and joint venture how-to's
- June 27: NAWIC Family Day at Diggerland USA. Joint excursion with NAWIC Philadelphia & NAWIC Wilmington.
- July 21: Hard Hat Happy Hour and brainstorming event, to help plan 2015-2016.
- August 18: End-of-Summer Social, a joint event with other industry associations, and a quick networking "how to" by Dale Carnegie's Cheryl Eibner

We hope to see you all at AMEC in Nashville!