



NAWIC

National Association of Women In Construction
Region 12 - Southern California
Chapter 110 - San Gabriel Valley
www.nawic110.org

The Rose Gazette

Volume 7, Issue 10

August 2005

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- ◆ **August 2**
Board Meeting @ Cell Crete
- ◆ **August 10**
Chapter Planning Meeting
- ◆ **August 19**
Happy 40th Birthday SGV #110
- ◆ **September 6**
Board Meeting @ Cell Crete
- ◆ **September 8-10**
Annual Convention in Grapevine, Texas
- ◆ **September 14**
Installation of Officers
- ◆ **October 4**
Board Meeting
- ◆ **October 12**
General Meeting

President's Message from Norma Shearer

Our Industry appreciation night turned out to be a great evening. We were honored to have Joyce Mason, Vice President of Marketing and Sandra Kidashima of Pardee Homes. Their presentation on the make-over home in Santa Fe Springs was great. It sure changed my way of viewing Extreme Makeover Home Edition. I will now think of the hundreds of workers behind the scenes working endlessly to make the miracles happen.

Gwen Stone presented for the first time "The Member of the Year Award". Our first recipient was Patti Rascon of Richard Rascon Electrical, Inc. The chapter voted for Patti because she is our VIH "Very Important Helper". The all around person who will go the extra mile and help get whatever done in super speed time. Great job Patti, it's great to have members like you with us. Thank you Gwen for your sponsorship of this award.

The tables were then turned and it was my pleasure to present Gwen Stone with our Block Kids appreciation award. A special award of merit that our chapter thought should be given to Gwen for her dedication and love to the Block Kids program. A-lot of thought went into its design, Christina Rascon who is (12 years old) and the daughter of Patti Rascon came up with a great trophy made of Legos. It was a building under construction with little "Lego" people carrying the blocks. At the top of the building was a flag with the NAWIC logo. What an excellent touch! Thank you Christina for helping us out and congratulations once again to Gwen who has been a dedicated Block Kids Chair for the last 5 years.

I am very proud of our chapter and happy to see that with all our hard work, we were able to award four Barbara Curtin Scholarships in amounts that can make a difference to the recipients. The recipients included Lynn Grosz attending Cal Poly San Luis Obispo with a major in Civil Engineering and a minor in City and Regional Planning, Deb Bradley attending Pasadena Community College studying in the Building Construction Department, Unittia Vaughn attending Los Angeles Trade Tech studying in the Cabinetmaking Department and Jessica Duquette transferring to San Luis Obispo with major studies in Architectural Engineering.

(continued on page 2)

President's Letter from page 1)

Additionally, our chapter has adopted Unitta Vaughn who is facing many obstacles in her own life to make a new career for herself. GO NITA, we are with you 100%.

I want to give special thanks to Krista Wilkie-Boswell our Region 12 Director for attending our special night and the other and special friends of NAWIC for attending.

Daphne, we congratulate you for putting together a fine evening for us. The cake was great and very delicious. Forty does not look bad on us after all. Thank you to all the members who have worked hard in raising monies for our scholarship program. You make me proud and especially proud to be a member of NAWIC.

I look forward to seeing everyone in August. Hope all had a happy Forth of July and is keeping cool in the summer heat.



Attention Members

Chapter Planning Meeting
Wednesday August 10

Location to be announced

Contact Daphne Masin
at (626) 303-3835
with any questions.

Congratulations to the following candidates for their election to the NAWIC National Board 2005-2006

- Carol Chapman, President
- Christie S. Wigginton, President Elect
- Tamie K. Taylor, Vice President
- Robin Fulton Meyer, Secretary
- Pat McDonald, Treasurer
- Nancy A. Eaton, Immediate Past President

Please join San Gabriel Valley Chapter #110

For the Installation of Officers for 2005-2006

September 14, 2005

President, Daphne Masin * Vice President, Gwen Garis

Mary Brown, Secretary * Kim Smick, Treasure

Maria Foye & Patti Rascon, Directors

Norma Shearer, Immediate Past President

Holiday Inn, E. Garvey North West Covina, (626)966-8311

No Host Cocktails at 6:00, Dinner at 6:30 PM

Please RSVP to Daphne Masin at (626)303-3835

\$25.00 per person



Industry Bulletin

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www.cslb.ca.gov



SACRAMENTO -A man suspected of ripping off at least five homeowners for more than \$45,000 in damages was arrested in a sting operation June 1 by the Contractors State License Board (CSLB). William Ralph Barrientos was cited Earlier on two separate occasions by the CSLB for contracting without a license and illegally using other contractor's names and license numbers without their knowledge.

The sting took place in Elk Grove with help from Elk Grove Police. CSLB Investigators posed as new homeowners. Mr. Barrientos was arrested without incident after bidding in excess \$500 for a job, which constitutes as contracting without a license. He was also arrested for burglary which is entering with intent to steal. CSLB investigators are in the process of identifying other potential victims. So far, they have found homeowners in Elk Grove and El Dorado Hills that have had to repair damage caused by shoddy workmanship attributed to Mr. Barrientos.

"Homeowners need to watch out for phony contractors," said CSLB Registrar Steve Sands. "They can do a lot of damage. That is why it is so important to make sure the person hired for home improvement projects has a valid license by checking them out with the Board."

Consumers can verify a contractor's license status 24 hours a day using the CSLB's Web site at www.cslb.ca.gov or toll-free automated telephone system at (800) 321-CSLB (2752). They can also report contractors or unlicensed activity to the Board by filling in the online complaint form or by calling the CSLB number to request a form by mail. For hot tips download and fax the form at: <http://www.cslb.ca.gov/services/forms.asp#HOTLEAD>.

By law, all contractors who perform work that totals \$500 or more (labor and materials) must be licensed by the CSLB. Because many unlicensed operators don't comply with the workers compensation laws, they often submit lower bids on jobs. But, if one of their workers is injured on the job, the homeowner could be considered liable. And, if a deal goes bad with an unlicensed contractor, the homeowner has very few options.

The CSLB urges consumers to follow these tips when dealing with a contractor:

- Hire only licensed contractors and ask to see the license
- Don't hire the first contractor who comes along
- Be especially hesitant when approached by someone offering home improvement services door-to-door, especially when they will use material they claim is left over from another job
- Don't rush into repairs, no matter how badly they're needed
- Verify the contractor's license at www.cslb.ca.gov or (800) 321-CSLB
- Don't pay more than 10 percent or \$1,000, whichever is less, as a down payment
- Don't pay cash, and don't let the payments get ahead of the work
- Get three bids, check references, and get a written contract

Work Safely In the Heat

Source: State Compensation Insurance Fund- Issue Two, 2005



The human body has an amazing ability to adapt to temperature extremes, but it does have its limits. When temperatures are high and your work requires heavy physical exertion, your body's natural cooling system may not be able to keep up. When that happens, mild to serious health problems can result. To safeguard against a heat-related illness, understand the risks and take appropriate preventative measures.

If you'll be working where it's hot, know what to do to prevent heat stress. Recognize the symptoms of heat-related illnesses, know basically how to respond them, and know whom to call if the symptoms appear serious. Keep in mind that age, general physical condition, and medication can further contribute to the effects of heat.

Mild or moderate heat-related illnesses include a rash called prickly heat, dizziness or fatigue, and painful muscle spasms called heat cramps. There may also be excessive sweating, cold, moist, pale or flushed skin, thirst, headache, and nausea, lack of appetite, rapid weak pulse or giddiness. For most of these conditions, the victim should be moved to a shaded place with circulating air. The victim should lie down and, if conscious, be given frequent, small sips of water. If there's no improvement, call a doctor.

In severe cases, heat stroke may result. This could be fatal without emergency medical treatment. If you suspect heat stroke, immediately call for help, move the victim out of the heat, loosen clothing, pour water over the entire body, and get air circulating around the body. It's very important to cool the person gradually so heat is not trapped in the body's core.

You can take steps to avoid potential heat-related illnesses by following some suggestions.

- Start work earlier in the morning when the heat is less intense.
- Pace yourself; space heavy jobs throughout the day.
- Stay out of direct sunlight, when possible.
- Wear light-colored, loose clothes that cover exposed skin; include a hardhat and neck scarf.
- Drink water frequently - one cup every 20 minutes.
- Avoid alcohol and caffeinated drinks that can cause dehydration. Avoid salt tablets.
- Take periodic rest breaks in cool, shaded areas.

Tell your supervisor if you can't safely do a job because of a health or physical condition. Your employer would rather see you rest for a few minutes rather than risk a heat-related illness or accident that could take you off the job for an extended period of time.

Member Spotlight–Margareta Thorsen



In our fifth installment of the San Gabriel Valley “Member Spotlight” our light shines on San Gabriel Valley #110’s Secretary, Margareta Thorsen. Margareta has been a NAWIC member since 1997. She joined because her previous employer was a corporate member of NAWIC. Since that time she joined as an individual. Margareta has taken advantage of the various educational programs, learned from informative speakers and made a-lot of life long friends.

An active member, she has held the position of secretary and aided in various committees during her membership. For her, “NAIWC has truly been an enjoyable part of my career. The connections, the information, conferences and forums have been enjoyable and useful. It is wonderful for women to have an organization like NAWIC to help with direction and support as women continue to evolve in various positions within the construction industry”.

Margareta began her career in Surety Bonding in 1990 as a trainee at Corron & Black Insurance Services. This firm eventually merged with Willis Faber of London to become Willis Corroon Insurance Services. During her tenure with this organization she became Account Manager and moved with their Surety Department to Orange County. In 1995 Margareta left Willis Corroon to join Brooks Surety & Insurance Services, Inc. a Member of the Rule Group to become the Account Manager of the Surety Department. In 2001 Margareta purchased Brooks Surety & Insurance Services, Inc. from John Brooks. As well as obtaining Surety Credit for general contractors, subcontractors, and subdividers; Margareta has also worked with Environmental Contractors. During this time she has arranged bonding for the local, national and international bond needs of her clients. This process involved dealings with all major surety markets.

Margareta has been married to Eric for seven years and they have two children, Nicole age 16 and Peter 4.

New York Women In Line to Get Restroom Relief

Source: *By Michelle Garcia* Washington Post Staff Writer Friday, May 27, 2005; Page 03

NEW YORK, May 26 -- To the women of New York City, who like many of their sex in so many places have suffered long lines to answer nature's call, relief is on the way. To the women who have ducked into the men's restroom to avoid embarrassment, the City Council has heard your woes and acted.

The council this week unanimously passed legislation ~ dubbed Potty Parity by New York's ever-vivid tabloids ~ that establishes a 2-to-1 ratio for women's restrooms in new public venues including, bars, restaurants and concert halls.

"Almost every woman can recall waiting in a long line to use the bathroom, while there was no comparable line for a neighboring men's bathroom," read the opening lines to the bill titled the Women's Restroom Equity Bill. Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg (R), clearly aware of his female constituency in an election year, is expected to sign the legislation into law.

"It's a women's rights accomplishment," said council member Yvette D. Clarke (D), the bill's chief sponsor. "It goes to the quality of life that we are able to enjoy in the city."

This being New York, some women were less than impressed. "It's ridiculous they had to pass a law," said Veronica Castro, a regular club-goer who works in the financial industry in Midtown. "It's something they [venue owners] should have done out of consideration for the customer."

The legislation, which initially inspired jokes and giggles, also drew critics who labeled Clarke a "feminazi." "They thought it was taking women's rights just too far," said Clarke, who defended the bill, noting that women are conditioned to expect restroom lines, something she calls "degrading."

The "bathroom equality" bill brings New York City in step with Virginia, Texas, Pennsylvania and California, which have adopted similar laws over the years.

Once in effect, the law will impose the 2-to-1 ratio on new sites and on existing venues when they undertake major renovations. Venue owners can circumvent the rule by making all their restrooms unisex.

Robert Bookman, a lobbyist for the New York Nightlife Association, which represents bars and clubs, said the legislation targeted too many locations. "No one has reported to us any complaints, from bars or even clubs," he said.

But many women said they frequently have long waits and devise impromptu strategies to hurry things along.

"I just know it takes longer for us because we have to stoop," said Melissa Williams, during a lunch break from a Midtown dental office.

Emily Vaello, a co-worker added that biology did not prevent her from once sneaking into a park to relieve herself. "And I pushed them [her pants] up so fast when a big fat rat ran by," said Vaello, bursting into laughter.

A failproof method to cutting into a line: "You have to say, 'I'm pregnant,'" said Lulit Maregn, a 31-year-old student, while grabbing her belly to demonstrate.

NAWIC – SAN GABRIEL VALLEY #110
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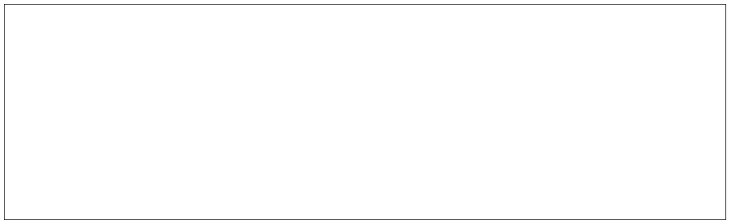
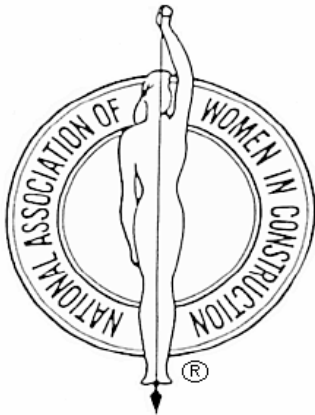
Board meetings are on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM Location to be announced
General meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM Holiday Inn 3223 E. Garvey Ave. North, West Covina
For membership information, contact Jean Stone at (909) 599-3426
For newsletter information, contact Patti Rascon at (626) 919-1228 or fax (626) 917-7949 or email to:

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