

*Newsletter*  
**SOLID GROUND**



VOLUME #112

**March Events**

**WIC Week: March 1-7**

*(Highlights throughout this newsletter)*

**Women's History Month**

**April Events**

**April 2:** Board Meeting (Bryan Construction)

**April 16:** April Membership Meeting (Villa Sport Athletic Club and Spa)

**May Events**

**May 7:** Board Meeting (Bryan Construction)

**May 13-15:** Pacific Southwest Spring Forum (Los Angeles, CA)



are held on the first Thursday of each month at 5:30pm at Bryan Construction



**March** 2026



**Women's History Month**



**A Message From Our Pikes Peak Chapter 356 President**

**Samantha Walter**  
*Bryan Construction*

**WIC Week 2026** has come to a close and I'm thankful for the wide range of activities that the WIC Week committee organized for everyone. Along with daily inspiration from our chapter members, we learned how to do wood burning with Meraki Springs downtown at Summa, had a hard hat tour of the Alice Bemis Taylor Center for Early Education hosted by GH Phipps, followed by a happy hour at Ivywild. We learned about our strengths and how to lead from who we've become with Jen Cáceres of Perpetual Capacity, volunteered with Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity's Women's Build, and rounded out the week with some fun and games at Main Event.

Overall, it was a great week to learn, give back, and to celebrate our successes as women in the construction industry. I hope that everyone took something from the week to feel inspired and encouraged to continue to support one another.

During the next couple of months, our nominating committee will be reaching out to all our eligible members for interest in serving on the chapter's board for the 2026-2027 year. Board members are expected to attend board meetings that are generally held on the first Thursday of the month as well as have a presence at our membership meetings generally held the third Thursday of the month. Each board position has different duties, and the nominating committee will be available to answer questions that you may have about those open positions. Whether it's a board position or being on a committee, I encourage you to ask questions and get involved with the chapter. We won't be getting together until April, but I'm always here as well so feel free to reach out anytime.



## **April Membership Meeting - "Voice of the Customer"**

**When: Thursday - April 16, 2026**

**Location:** Villa Sport Athletic Club & Spa   
5904 Schooner Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80923

**Time:** 5:30 - 8:30pm

**Cost:** \$25 – Members | \$35 – Non-Members

**RSVP via Zeffy by Monday, April 13, 2026 at Noon**



**Networking & Catered Dinner 5:30-6pm**

**Presentation & Tour - 6pm**

**Monthly meeting to begin directly after tour - until 8:30pm**

Join us for our April meeting featuring special guest speaker **Ashlee Sacdalan**, General Manager at Villa Sport Athletic Club and Spa, who is currently leading her facility through a major renovation and construction project.

This month's topic provides a unique and valuable perspective from the other side of the jobsite. Ashlee will share firsthand insight into what it's like to be the customer during an active construction project - while still being responsible for serving her own members and guests.

Discussion around:

- The real-time challenges of operating during construction
- How construction impacts staff, members, and daily operations
- Ways contractors can be more mindful and proactive
- "Low-hanging fruit" improvements that make a big difference in customer experience
- How we can be better partners and stewards while working on occupied properties

This is a great opportunity to strengthen our understanding of the client experience and walk away with practical, actionable takeaways that can be applied to our own projects immediately.

**Important NOTE:** This meeting will take place on an active construction site, and **PPE is required** - Safety Vest - Hard Hat - Safety Glasses - Closed Toe Shoes (\*If you need assistance with any PPE, please let us know in advance and we will be happy to help.)

This event is perfect for NAWIC members, as well as contractors, developers, engineers, inspectors, project managers, and environmental professionals. We encourage NAWIC ladies to attend — and invite colleagues and industry partners to join us.

**Please note: There are no refunds for cancellations or no-shows**

## THE NAWIC PLEDGE

**As material for the construction of our building, I pledge the agility of my hands, the ability of my mind, and the integrity of my heart.**

**- Alice Ashley**

Founding member of Women in Construction of Fort Worth 1953



How fun is this NAWIC Dress!?



\*If you are experiencing difficulty covering the cost of the meeting, please don't hesitate to reach out to our Chapter President, Samantha Walter, for assistance. We want to ensure everyone has the opportunity to participate.



# WIC Week 2026 in Photos

**Wood Burning with Meraki  
Springs at Summa**



**Alice Bemis Taylor Center  
Hard Hat Tour & Happy Hour**



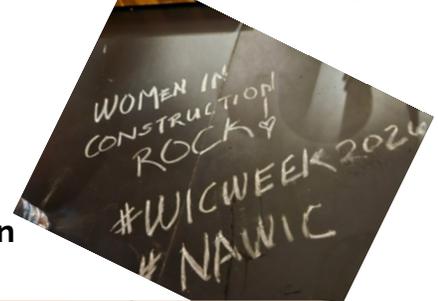
**Leadership Development  
at Bryan Construction**



*celebrate!*



**Women's Celebration  
Mixer at Main Event**



**NAWIC Pikes Peak 356: 2026 WIC Week Sponsors**

**A special shout-out to our gracious sponsors for supporting our week of celebrating Women in Construction!**



*Thank you!*

*We could not have done this without you -*

Hello NAWIC 356!

What a whirl wind of a week. I want to thank everyone that participated in a WIC Week event and showed up to support NAWIC Pikes Peak 356. I also want to give a special thank you to the lovely ladies on the WIC Week committee who helped to plan our events – **Jen Cáceres, Stephanie Leclerc, Karla Greeley, Gina Green, Jessica O'Connell, Kaitlyn Powell, Tamie Sharp, and Samantha Walter!** Unfortunately, our volunteer day was canceled due to snow – however, Jillian with Habitat for Humanity, mentioned that they will be hosting another Women's Build in May so be on the lookout for that. Until next year's WIC Week

Cheers – **Elysa Matthews**

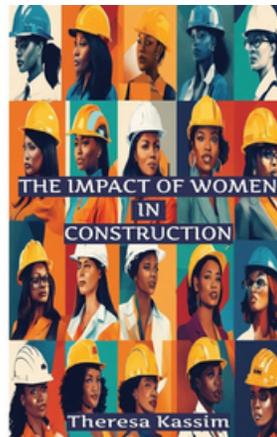
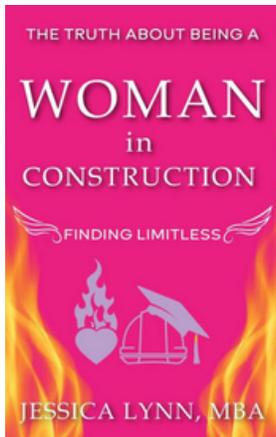
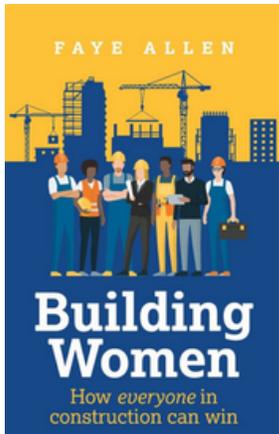
LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT



The following is a list of the examinations administered by NEF for certification:

- Construction Bookkeeping Technician (CBT)
Construction Document Technician (CDT)
Construction Industry Specialist (CIS)
Construction Industry Technician (CIT)
Estimating and Scheduling Practitioner (ESP)

Spring Reading - Women in Construction



THE SPANISH CORNER

Spring Will Soon Be Here!

- Spring | La primavera | lah -pree-mah-bare-ah
Flowers | Los flores | los-floor-ace
It's warm outside | Hace calor afuera | Ah-say-cah-lor-ah-fwer-ah
It's raining | Está lloviendo | es-tah-yo-vee-end-oh
It's sunny | Está soleado | es-tah-so-lay-ah-do
Happy St. Patrick's Day | Feliz Día de San Patricio | fay-lees-dee-ah-day-san-pah-tree-see-oh



- Tamie S. - March 8th
Patti H. - March 13th
Elysa M. - March 15th
Kristen I. - March 21st
Greta W. - March 31st

MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

- Elysa M. - 5 years
Timberline Landscaping, Inc.
Jessica O. - 5 years
Pyramid Construction, Inc.
Ashley S. - 5 years
Timberline Landscaping, Inc.
Karla G. - 3 years
Razorback Rolloff



## PACIFIC SOUTHWEST SPRING FORUM MAY 13-15

*Where Women Leaders in Construction  
Connect, Learn, and Lead*

Hotel Indigo Los Angeles Downtown  
899 Francisco St., Los Angeles, CA 

**Reserve Your Room Today!**

**Regular Registration until April 21**  
Members \$275 Non-Members \$325



## CONSTRUCTION-RELATED NON-NAWIC UPCOMING EVENTS



### Construction Financial Managers Association (CFMA)

#### Pikes Peak Meeting

*(From Spreadsheets to Strategy)*

The El Paso Club 

30 E Platte Ave.

Colorado Springs CO 80903

**Thursday March 19 - 7:30am - 9:00am**

[Register HERE](#)

[Members \\$35](#)

[Non-Members \\$45](#)

### El Paso County Contractors Association (EPCCA)

#### Monthly Luncheon

Norris Penrose Event Center 

1045 Lower Gold Camp Rd.

Colorado Springs, CO 80905

**Tuesday, April 07, 2026 - 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM**

[Register HERE](#)

### **Non-NAWIC Community Opportunity - A Note From Samantha Walters:**

I was contacted by my friend, **Marie Matthews**, a Registered Dental Hygienist for **Elevate Dental**, to see if any of our member companies would be interested in being a non-dental sponsor for their quarterly *Dental Hygiene Study Club*. Elevate Dental is a local dental management company for a dozen offices in the Colorado Springs area. This sponsorship would be to provide some swag items and any additional marketing materials for up to 40 ladies. Items could be small lotions, hand sanitizer, lip gloss, ChapStick, Emergen-C packets, etc. Anything that they can put in the goody bags for the day and then your company would receive verbal credit for. This gives the dental hygienist's resources to be able to share with their numerous patients that may need referrals to local businesses as well as any need for the dental offices existing buildings and potential new construction.

**If you are interested in being a sponsor, reach out directly to Marie Matthews via email at - [marie.matthews@elevate-dental.com](mailto:marie.matthews@elevate-dental.com)**



## MARCH SPOTLIGHT MEMBER

**Name:** Kristen Ibarra  
**Company:** Granite Engineering Group  
**Position:** Office Services Manager



### What do you do at Granite Engineering Group, and what do you enjoy most about your job?:

*I dabble in everything...invoicing, onboarding, HR documents, accounts payable, accounts receivable, meeting minutes, contracts, IT help desk, and everything in between. I thoroughly enjoy organizing everything. I have organized our electronic files, supply closet, conference room, and paper files. Organizing makes my heart happy.*



### How did you get into this kind of work?

*A friend of the family was asking for part-time admin help in the afternoons so she could run errands and get the company ready for them to retire.*

*I had just purchased my first home and needed the extra income to pay for groceries. Thankfully, once the business was sold, the new owners wanted a full time admin in the Monument office and I was recommended by the previous owners.*

### How long have you been in the construction industry and how long with your current employer?

*I have been in the construction industry 15 years and I've been with GEG for a year and half.*

### What's one thing you'd like to share with the chapter that people might not know about you?

*I lived and worked in London, England, for 6 months after college and wanted to stay there illegally. I was willing to marry anyone to stay. My mom yelled at me and told me I had to come home.*

### What's something on your bucket list and why?

*To have a net worth of \$1,000,000 because I know my worth and want to see it in \$\$ in my account. I also want to be that rich aunt who leaves her nieces and nephews money so they can have fun later in life.*

### What's your favorite thing about NAWIC?

*The sisterhood. I don't have sisters, but my sister-in-law introduced me to this group and I have met some of the most amazing women here.*

**We want to learn more about you! If you'd like to be featured as a Spotlight Member, it only takes a few minutes to [complete the form HERE.](#)**



# Thank You

**To Our Corporate  
Sponsor Partners!**

## CORNERSTONE



## ARCHITECT



## FRAMEWORK



## FOUNDATION



## BUILD IT UP!

Support women in construction and make a difference in our community! Your sponsorship helps fund educational programs, student competitions, professional development, and networking events.

### Sponsorship Levels:

- Cornerstone: \$3,000
- Architect: \$2,000
- Framework: \$1,500
- Groundbreaker: \$500
- Foundation: \$250\*

\*Foundation level is for women-owned businesses or small companies.

Your support empowers the next generation of women in construction while giving your company visibility and networking opportunities.



### Pikes Peak



Scan or click on the QR code above to get started today

**Advertising in Solid Ground can elevate your business!**

Size	Price
Quarter-Page	\$75
Half-Page	\$150
Full-Page	\$200

*Advertise With Us!*

With your purchase of advertising, you are free to change your Ad throughout the year.

To get your Ad in next month's newsletter, scan or click this QR code



# B Sharp Painting

## Color Your World INSIDE & OUT

**Professional Painting Done Right - With precision, professionalism and a painter's touch that lasts.**

Color transforms everything – from mood to light to how your home feels the moment you walk in. At B Sharp Painting, we bring your vision to life with careful prep, clean lines, and lasting finishes. Whether you want a cozy refresh or a full-room makeover, we make it simple, smooth, and stunning.

### Our Services

- Interior & Exterior Painting • Cabinet Refinishing & Enameling
- Deck & Fence Staining • Drywall & Siding Repair
- Light Carpentry & Trim Work • Color Consultations & Special Finishes

### Contact Us Today

- (719) 357-4573
- [www.bsharppainting.com](http://www.bsharppainting.com)
- [bsharppainting@gmail.com](mailto:bsharppainting@gmail.com)
- Serving the Colorado Springs area – from Woodland Park to Calhan, Parker to Pueblo

**CREATING SPACES THAT REFLECT YOUR UNIQUE SELF.**

## Leadership & Team Alignment for Trades & Construction

Strengthening Leaders, Teams, Culture



### Workforce Readiness & Partnership:

- Customized Workshops & Interactive Learning Sessions
- Keynote & Offsite Leadership Talks  
*(see website for topics)*
- Spanish for Industry | ESL for Industry
- Organizational Development/HR Support
- Coaching & Leadership Development (Leaders at all Levels)
- Strengths-Based Development with CliftonStrengths®

*\*Bilingual - English & Spanish*



Jen Cáceres has over 10 years experience working with owners and leaders in trades and construction.

She specializes in partnering with leaders who are navigating the different generations at work, struggling with culture, engagement, and retention while trying to lead from who they've become today.



# PYRAMID CONSTRUCTION INC.

**YOUR ROAD BEGINS HERE.**

**ASPHALT - CONCRETE - GRADING - TRUCKING**



**FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 2002**



**INFO@PYRAMIDCONSTRUCTIONINC.COM**

719-635-3563



**Performance.  
Partnership.  
Design.**



**Windows & Doors  
of Colorado Springs**

**719.634.6151  
PellaMVP.com**