NAWIC
The National Association of Women in Construction

Colorado Springs

Newsletter
Solid Ground



Volume #118

October Events

October 15: *Membership Meeting: Speed Networking at Timberline Landscaping*

October 22-24: *PSW Region Fall Conference in El Paso, TX*

November Events

November 5: *Board Meeting (Pyramid Construction, Inc.)*

November 19: *Membership Meeting: Tour of the Mill*

December Events

December 10: *Holiday Happy Hour*

STRONG FOUNDATIONS FUTURE W



October 2026

A Message From Our Colorado Springs Chapter 356 President

Jessica O'*Connell*

Pyramid Construction, Inc.

Hello NAWIC Colorado Springs!

As we begin our 2026–2027 NAWIC year, I keep coming back to the message I shared at Installation: **there is power in kindness, and we are better when we work together.**

Each of us brings something unique to our Chapter, and I hope this year you'll find a way to share what you bring. **Get involved with a committee, volunteer at an event, or consider stepping up as a committee chair or co-chair.** You don't have to know everything to lead—sometimes it simply starts with being willing to say, "I'll help."

October brings our second **Brick by Brick: NAWIC Connections** Membership Meeting. This is about building genuine relationships within our Chapter and throughout the construction industry. I challenge you to **invite another woman in the industry to join you.** A coworker, colleague, industry partner, or someone new to construction may just be waiting for someone to personally invite her into NAWIC.

Later this month, **Mary and I are heading to El Paso to represent NAWIC Colorado Springs Chapter 356 at the NAWIC PSW Fall Conference.** I'm looking forward to connecting with other chapters, learning from fellow NAWIC members, and bringing new ideas back to Colorado Springs.

As we move through this year, remember that the strength of NAWIC is in **our members and how we show up for one another.**

There is power in kindness—and we are better when we work together.

- Jessica

WELCOME
the incoming board





THANK YOU
the outgoing board



Chapter Award Recipients 2026



JourneyWoman of the Year - Jessica O'Connell



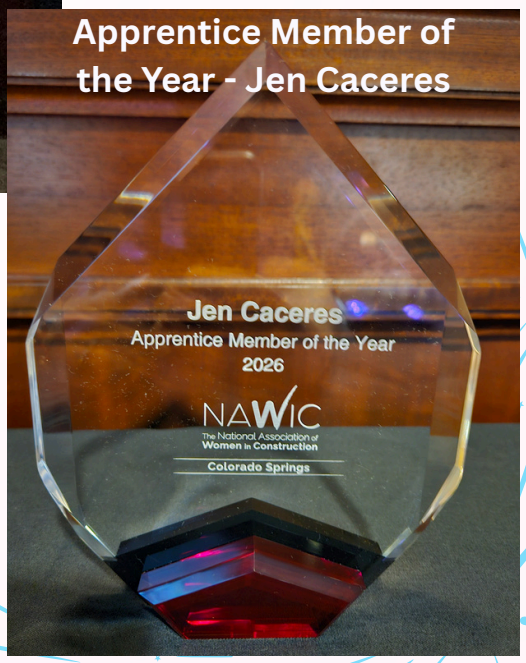
Corporate Sponsor of the Year - Olson Pjumbing & Heating



Chapter Lifetime Achievement - Kristen Ibarra, CDT



Spirit Award - Gina Green



Apprentice Member of the Year - Jen Caceres

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

GRAB YOUR SWAG!



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.

October

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Want to get to know your fellow—and future—NAWIC sisters better? Join us for a fun and interactive **Speed Networking Event** where you'll have the chance to meet new members, reconnect with familiar faces, and build meaningful connections within our NAWIC community.

🔨 How It Works
We're taking the pressure out of coming up with questions yourself!

- You'll rotate through short, structured conversations with different NAWIC members.
- Each round will be approximately 2–3 minutes.
- Each table or seat will have a different conversation question to help get the conversation started.
- We'll have approximately 10–12 questions, starting with fun and easy icebreakers and gradually becoming more meaningful.
- By the end of the evening, you'll have met several NAWIC sisters, shared experiences, and hopefully made a few new connections!

When: Thursday, October 15, 2026
Time: 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Location: Timberline Landscaping
8110 Opportunity View
Colorado Springs, CO 80939

REGISTER NOW

This is a catered event. Food and water will be provided, but feel free to bring your own beverage!



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

Join fellow members and chapter leaders for NAWIC's **General Membership Assembly**; a new virtual gathering designed to connect you with national leadership and staff.

Happening on **Thursday, October 22nd at 4 p.m. (CT)**, registrants will hear updates on NAWIC initiatives and recent developments, learn about new member engagement and professional development opportunities, and get ready for WIC Week®. You'll also discover how to make the most of your NAWIC benefits and find ways to get involved.

Have a question for NAWIC leadership or staff? Submit it in advance, and we'll address as many questions as time allows. This is your opportunity to share ideas, ask questions, and connect directly with the people and programs shaping NAWIC's work. We hope you'll join the conversation!

REGISTER NOW



LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT



REGISTER NOW

Hard Hat Courage: Confronting Suicide in the Construction Industry

Join NAWIC and Hard Hat Courage on **Tuesday, October 13th from 1–2 p.m. (CT)** for an informative conversation about suicide prevention and mental health in the construction industry.

Members can now register for this exclusive session that will explore the unique factors that contribute to suicide risk in construction and introduce free resources, tools, and support available through Hard Hat Courage. Whether you are attending for yourself, your company, your chapter, or the broader construction community, this session will provide actionable information to help foster awareness, connection, and support.

Built Better Webinar: Amplifying Neurodivergent Strengths with AI

The Built Better Webinar, brought to you by the PD&E Committee, is a monthly professional development series created for construction industry professionals.

Join author and CEO Grace Mase on **Thursday, Oct. 15 from 1-2 p.m. (CT)**. Registrants will identify how skills such as spatial reasoning, visual thinking, problem-solving, and early detection of design conflicts contribute value to trade and construction work.



REGISTER HERE



WIC Week® is March 7-13, 2027

NAWIC National has updated the dates for WIC Week® 2027.

Get ready to celebrate Women in Construction (WIC) Week® from Sunday, March 7, through Saturday, March 13, 2027! This nationwide celebration brings together thousands of construction professionals through national webinars, regional activities, and chapter events. Stay tuned for updates, resources, and event information!



What's Happening in October



Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Back to the Future Day October 21 (2015)





United Nations Day October 24



October 31

October Anniversaries

Kelly E., Heating & Plumbing Engineers, Inc. - 11 years
Lisa G., Elder Construction, Inc. - 4 years
Lela N., Elder Construction Inc. - 4 years
Laura M., Rapid Fire Protection, Inc. - 3 years
Mary V., United Rentals - 2 years

celebrate

Thank You

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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.

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COLORADO SPRINGS CHAPTER 356

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