

I cannot believe that we have hit the half way point of our NAWIC year and it is time to start planning for 2021-2022. Your nominating committee will be calling all members soon. Please consider a seat on the Board of Directors. We will be nominating Officers and four Directors. It is a great way to learn more about NAWIC and connect with other members. If you have any questions talk to a current or past Officer/Director. You can also attend a board meeting.

Our Chapter's 56th anniversary celebration will be Wednesday April 28. This will be a hybrid meeting in person in Saratoga along with a Zoom option. We will also be celebrating a year's worth of holidays. Missy and Donna are busy planning fun activities for this festive evening. We have gained 14 new members this year. There will be installations of 2 members that joined after the pandemic caused a shutdown along with our new members this year. Come celebrate all the things we have missed this past year and welcome the new members.

We have three members receiving Longevity Pins this month. I would like to congratulate Judy Wagner on 40 years as a NAWIC member, Shawna Alvarado and Sharon Dilbeck both for 25 years as NAWIC members. We will honor these women at our April meeting.

Spring Forum was held virtually on April 9 2021, seven members from our chapter attended. There were three speakers and two jobsite tours. The first speaker Jessica Bonar talked about her philosophy Both/And. I learned that you don't have to be either/or that you can be both/and. You can be a leader and a follower that you can win and lose. Perfection falls in the middle. This was followed by Chris Wheatley talking about, "Creating a Culture of Feedback. The final speaker of the event Skyler Oberst spoke about, "Meeting your neighbors". He stressed that it is okay to not agree with someone and still be friends. You need to look for the common ground and not the differences.

2021 Annual Conference will be in Charlotte NC August 11-14. Registration is now open and early bird registration closes May 16. This event will be a hybrid in person and virtual. Fall conference will be in Tacoma WA October 15-16 and will also be a hybrid.

National elections will be happening soon. You should be receiving emails from the members that are running for National Offices. You can also go to the NAWIC National Website for the candidate selections and videos. Make sure to vote when the ballot is emailed.

The May 26 meeting will be a presentation on public speaking and speed networking. In June, we will be voting for the 2021/2022 board. We will also review the committees that will need volunteers for next year.

I look forward to seeing you on April 28.

Sincerely,

Laura Grabar