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## FALL FORUM RECAP Provided by Elise Runyon

The NAWIC Fall Conference was held in beautiful, if cold and windy, Newport, Rhode Island on November 10-11, 2017. Many of the 51 participants, representing 14 of the region's 15 chapters, arrived on Friday for registration and a trolley tour past an assortment of Newport's historic homes, including a stop at the Vanderbilt mansion Breakers. Friday evening ended with a reception hosted by Pella Windows, one of the conference's main sponsors. Saturday was an action-packed day full of important information related to new bylaws, chapter and national committee reports, and three speakers all related to the conference theme of "Smooth Sailing to Stronger Chapters." The day was capped off with a reception and dinner. Attendees were joined by NAWIC National President, and member of Northeast region chapter, Catherine Schoenenberger. Diane Mike, NAWIC National Vice President, and a member of the Ft. Worth, TX chapter, was also in attendance. Our chapter had three members attend, President Leah Curran, Vice President Elise Runyon, and member Mary-Kate Sutter. Leah acted as the conference's parliamentarian. Highlights of the conference included an interactive presentation by Cynthia Tsao on lean construction, in which she used building a block structure to demonstrate a pull schedule and how teamwork and pre-planning are vital to success, as well as a simple exercise showing how ineffective multi-tasking is instead of completing a task before moving onto the next one. Another highlight was Catherine speaking about her goal, "making a measurable difference," and the invitation for all to attend the Annual Conference in Orlando, FL this year.

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## CHAPTER #96 NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **November Meeting Recap - Leave the Falling to the Leaves**

Last week's networking event and program, "Leave the Falling to the Leaves: A Focus on Female Fall Protection," included a Wohlsen-sponsored presentation given by Pam Taylor from Sales Solutions. Erin Patterson, OSHA's Area Director was also in attendance to answer questions and provide input on OSHA's formal direction on items discussed during the fall protection presentation. Pam showed and demonstrated a new style of hardhat that secures at the base of the neck and also has a strap so it doesn't fall off in the event of a fall. The new hardhat also has built-in safety glasses. Pam then did a thorough and informative presentation on fall protection, including options depending on the situation, proper tie-off/anchor points, and OSHA regulations and statistics. She also offered everyone the chance to feel how uncomfortable, and potentially deadly, it feels to be hanging in a harness after a fall. Volunteers were then given the opportunity to test a product that alleviates pressure from the harness on the

legs, which could be life-saving if someone is not rescued from a harness quickly.

### **Next Board Meeting**

Wednesday, December 6

5 p.m.

DCA Boardroom, 527 Stanton Christiana Rd, Newark, DE 19713

### **Next Member Event - More Details Forthcoming**

**What:** Holiday Party

**When:** Tuesday, December 12, 5:30 p.m.



Fall Forum was held in Newport, RI on November 10-11, 2017 and was attended by Chapter President Leah Curran, Vice President Elise Runyon, and member Mary-Kate Sutter.



Pam Taylor of Sales Solutions Inc. suspends NAWIC member Samantha Harsh in a body harness to simulate what a potential fall would feel like.

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## LOCAL & INDUSTRY NEWS

[Glamour's Women of the Year Tell Inspiring Stories of Struggle and Success](#) *Huffington Post*

[All-girl engineer team invents solar-powered tents for homeless](#) *Mashable*

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## CHEERS

- This month, there are two people celebrating NAWIC anniversaries:
  - Sallie Ann Conner of Schneider Trailer & Container Rental, Inc. has been a member for 16 years
  - Laura Massimini of Nickle Electrical Companies has been a member for 4 years
- A few members are celebrating birthdays this month:
  - Michele Reynolds of Blue Hen Utility Services, Inc. - November 13
  - Judy Pieper of M. Davis & Sons, Inc. - November 16
  - Maria Arena of Wohlsen Construction - November 20
  - Debbie Horn of Rowland, Johnson & Company - November 26
- Judy Pieper is also celebrating 27 years at M. Davis & Sons, Inc. this month
- Congratulations to Vice President Elise Runyon on her new position at HSC Builders!
- Welcome to new member Kaitlin Cliver of Bancroft Construction Company!

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## NAME THE MAGAZINE CONTEST FROM NATIONAL

As we continue to update NAWIC, a new name for *The Image* magazine is needed!  
Enter your best idea (limited to one or two words) and if selected, you could win  
registration to next year's Annual Conference in Orlando, FL!  
Send your suggestion to Autumn by December 15 at [Autumnd@nawic.org](mailto:Autumnd@nawic.org)

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**HAPPY THANKSGIVING**  
**Have a safe & happy holiday!**

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