



## **December 2010 – THE CONNECTIONS**

**NAIW DALLAS, INC.**

**8820 Stemmons Freeway – Suite 340 LB60**

**Dallas, TX 75247**

**214.638.7000**

**[www.naiwdallas.com](http://www.naiwdallas.com)**





Dear Members:

I am writing you during THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR!! Is this not your most favorite time of the year?? It has to be... with all the giving, reuniting, fellowship, and love. Even in some of the most parched and driest places, I am seeing wellsprings of giving and hope!! Don't you just love it!!

So...to you our NAIW Members, families, offices and co-workers.....a very TEXAS BIG: MERRY CHRISTMAS, HAPPY CHANUKAH and MERRY AND HAPPY CELEBRATION to all faiths who are celebrating this time of the year.

Next Tuesday night is our HOLIDAY PARTY!! Please try to arrive by 6:00 p.m. and we will have our dinner and start the festivities!! We will be having our annual "Ornament/Holiday" gift exchange. Everyone bring a gift (under \$10.00) to exchange and let's really, really enjoy ourselves. If anyone has some holiday music you want to bring, we can certainly play it in the background. Also, let's all wear something, red, green or gold and take a group NAIW Holiday picture.

Also remember on Saturday morning, December 17th we will be gathering together at the Metro Crest Family Services for the Christmas outreach. If you have not signed up to attend, there is still time.

Also, if you have not sent in your \$25.00 to the NAIW Legacy Foundation 2010 Pacesetter Campaign, please do so. The deadline is December 31, 2010. We want to have 100% participation from the NAIW Dallas members. I sent my contribution in several weeks ago. Know that each member who makes a donation of \$25.00 or more will be recognized as a Pacesetter contributor in the NAIW publication and in the Annual Convention program. So let's make a strong Dallas, Texas presence with NAIW National and make this happen with 100% participation from our members!!

And finally, I want to thank every one of our faithful members who have made 2010 a stellar year!! You all are the greatest group of professional insurance women in the world. I sincerely mean this!! You all are amazing women with incredible potential to change your world!!

I look forward to seeing everyone next Tuesday as we celebrate this incredible season!!

With kind regards,

Christina L. McCracken  
President NAIW -Dallas  
2010-2011  
cmccracken@gordonrees.com



## 2010-2011 OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN

### Officers:

President:	Christina McCracken	cmccracken@gordonrees.com
VP:	Sidney Bartlett, CPI	se2bartlett@yahoo.com
Secretary:	Mildred Rainey	mbaby@dixonvision.com
Treasurer:	Anita Flynn	anitaaflynn@aegislimited.com
Director:	Tracy G. Wolf	twolf@gordonrees.com
Director:	Pamela Scofield	pamela_scofield@ajg.com

### Chairs:

Arrangement:	Susie Lowry	slowry2@lowryco.com
Audit:	Pamela Scofield	pamela_scofield@ajg.com
Bylaws/Standing	Dee McCullough	culla@sbcglobal.net
Rules:	Cathy Williams	Cathy.Williams@dpsg.com
Community Action:	Bina Penaflor	BPenaflor@holmesmurphy.com
Education:	Cathlynn Cannon	Cathlynn.Cannon@wilsonelser.com
Event Planning:	Sue Brewer	sbrewer@usic.com
Horizon Planning:	Tracy Wolf	twolf@gordonrees.com
Legislative:	~ open ~	
Membership:	Sidney Bartlett, CPI	se2bartlett@yahoo.com
Newsletter:	Julie Farthing	farthing.julie@aaa-texas.com
Parliamentarian:	Joi Wilson	joi.wilson@starrisk.com
Program:	Sidney Bartlett, CPI	se2bartlett@yahoo.com
Resource/Raffle:	Susie Lowry	slowry2@lowryco.com
Scholarship:	Michelle Ward	Michelle.ward@RepublicGroup.com



## ARRANGEMENTS

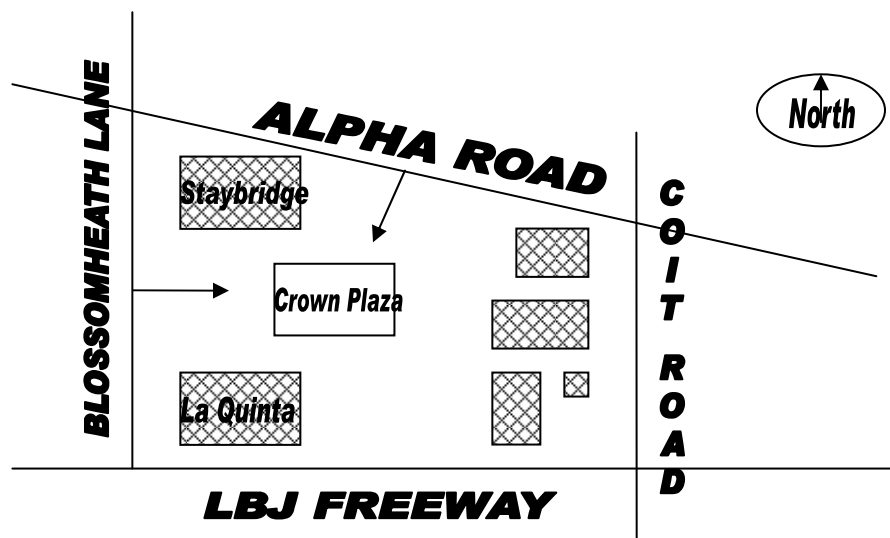
Our next meeting is Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. There will also be a Board Meeting at 5:15pm. Dinner cost is \$26.00 and the reservation deadline is **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>**. Look for the "Evite" Invitation to make your reservation.

In the case of an unplanned event, please remember to either call or email no less than 24 hours before the meeting to cancel your reservation if you are unable to attend. As we discussed previously, "a reservation made is a reservation paid."

### December Menu

House Salad of Mixed Field Greens  
Beef Medallions with Blue Cheese Crumbles and a Demi Glaze Sauce  
Smoked Cheddar Whipped Potatoes  
Seasonal Fresh Vegetables  
Dark Chocolate Mousse Cake  
Tea and Coffee

The Crown Plaza Suites Hotel is located at 7800 Alpha Road in Dallas, TX 75240. The phone number is 972-233-7600. Easiest access to location is via entrances from Blossomheath Lane or Alpha Road.



Susie Lowry  
Arrangements Chairman  
slowryco2@lowryco.com  
214-638-7000



## UPCOMING PROGRAM

Ho Ho Ho! Merry Christmas!!

We will have our annual Christmas "ornament" gift exchange and dinner for the December dinner meeting. We hope you will plan on joining us for this fun-filled time. There will be a quick meeting before we start the gift exchange event. This always proves to be a fun time for all. However, please do not feel obligated to participate in the gift exchange, come to the dinner and share some social time with all!

As always, please let Susie Lowry (slowry@lowryco2.com ) know by Friday, December 10th if you will be able to attend so she can turn in an accurate head count for the food preparation.

Remember, if you haven't come to one of our meetings lately, we are at our "new" location which is located at the Crowne Plaza Dallas - Park Central, located off of LBJ & Coit Rd. The main entrance is off of the north service road of LBJ heading west of Coit Rd, past the La Quinta sign, take right on Blossomheath, entrance to hotel is 1/2 block down on the right. The physical address is 7800 Alpha Road, Dallas, Texas 75240, main phone # is 972-233-7600. However, this brings you to the back side of the hotel.

We look forward to having you join us for this fun-filled evening!

Best Regards,

Sidney Bartlett  
NAIW Dallas, Inc.  
VP - Program Chairman  
972-529-8411 (M)  
214-265-6658 (W)  
[se2bartlett@yahoo.com](mailto:se2bartlett@yahoo.com)



## COMMUNITY ACTION

We will continue to collect canned and non-perishable food items for the Metrocrest Social Services in Carrollton, Texas. This organization assists residents of Carrollton, Farmers Branch, Addison, Coppell and Zip Code 75287 in Denton County. Please feel free to bring your donations to the next dinner meeting. A collection box will be placed in our meeting room for your donations.

Metrocrest is looking for the following food items:

### **Canned Food**

- Canned pinto or green beans
- Canned corn
- Canned fruit or juice
- Canned meat or chili
- Canned pasta with meat sauce
- Canned tomato sauce or diced tomatoes
- Canned soup
- Canned tuna, salmon, chicken or seafood
- Canned evaporated milk
- Peanut butter

### **Dried Food**

- Boxed macaroni & cheese
- Boxed pasta
- Boxed instant potatoes
- Flavored rice or pasta mix
- Dried rice in 2 lb. bags
- Dried beans in 2 lb. bags
- Sugar in 2 lb. bags
- Ramen or instant soup packs
- Boxed Jello or pudding

Additionally, Metrocrest is looking for the following unwrapped gift items for the holidays:

### **Infant gifts**

- Sleepers & toddler clothes
- Push, pull, or riding toys
- Play gyms
- Car seats
- Educational games

### **Children's gifts**

- Trucks & cars
- Remote control toys
- Disney character toys
- Tricycles & bikes
- Baby dolls & accessories
- Play dish sets & Nerf toys
- DVDs & CDs
- Pajamas & sweatshirts
- Fishing poles & equipment
- Scoters, skateboards & helmets

### **Preteen & Teen gifts**

- Sports & college apparel
- Radios, cameras & MP3 players
- Gym bags & sports equipment
- Wallets, jewelry & watches • DVDs & CDs
- Curling irons & hair dryers
- Nail & cosmetic sets
- Gift cards for WalMart, Target & Payless
- Shoe Source

### **Family gifts**

- Comforters, blankets & sheets
- Pillows, towels & sleeping bags
- Small household appliances
- Pots, pans & tableware
- Boxed sets of glasses & dishes
- DVD players
- Pre-paid phones

We are still looking for Volunteers for the Metrocrest Holiday Program - Santa's Helpers. It will be on **Saturday, December 18th, from 8:45am – 12:30pm**. We still need 6 - 8 volunteers to be "Santa's Helpers" to assist clients with their Holiday Shopping, in one of the suites at the shopping center at the corner of 190/George Bush & Old Denton Road in Carrollton, TX. Please feel free to [email me](mailto:bpenaflor@holmesmurphy.com) to reserve a spot for you in this worthy cause. Also a sign-up sheet will be available at our next dinner meeting if the slots are not filled by then. Thank you in advance for your kind generosity to help the less fortunate.

Bina Penaflor  
Community Action Chairman  
[bpenaflor@holmesmurphy.com](mailto:bpenaflor@holmesmurphy.com)



## RESOURCE COMMITTEE

A big thank you goes to Cathlynn Cannon for donating our November Raffle Door Prize.

For our next meeting, please bring donations for our charities. Bina Penaflores has provided a list of items that are needed. "We can make a difference".

Susie Lowry  
Resource Chairman  
slowry2@lowryco.com  
214-638-7000

## UPCOMING CONVENTIONS / MEETINGS

### **2011 NAIW REGIONAL CONFERENCE**

March 24 – 25, 2011 / Bourbon Orleans Hotel in New Orleans, LA  
The cost of registration is \$175.00.

### **NAIW (International) 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention**

June 5-8, 2011 Registration \$500 (before 05/02/11)

Flamingo Hotel (\$99 Room Rate) / Las Vegas, NV

*\*\*\* Register online and make your hotel arrangements before 03.04/11  
and you will be entered into a drawing to win 2 free nights at the hotel! \*\*\**

Over 40 Hours of workshop options including:

Continuing Education Credit

Leadership Development Skills

Office Technology Training

Social Media in Today's Industry

Industry Panel Hot Topic Forum

### **2011 NAIW State Council Meeting**

Hosted by NAIW Bellaire

October 14 – 15, 2011 / The Historic Stagecoach Inn in Salado, Texas



[NAIW \(International\) LEGACY FOUNDATION](#)  
[2010 PACESETTER CAMPAIGN](#)

As you may recall from our last newsletter, the NAIW (International) Legacy Foundation was formed in 2006 as the philanthropic arm of NAIW (International). Its purpose is to promote the education of insurance and risk management professionals. The 2010 Pacesetter Campaign began in September, and goes through December 2010 ... *It's not too late to send your contribution if interested in this great cause.*

Contributions are used to fund the development of new education programs for the NAIW curriculum. The target for this year's campaign is \$50,000. If each member contributes just \$25.00, it will help us reach the target, and the Dallas NAIW goal of 100% participation. Contributions may be made online or by mailing a check, to the following address:

NAIW Legacy Foundation  
9343 East 95<sup>th</sup> Court South  
Tulsa, OK 74133

[2010 CE INFORMATION FOR THE DFW AREA](#)

For information on CE courses please go to <http://www.naiwdallas.com/education.htm>.

For information on free monthly 3, 4, or 6 hour CE courses, please go to:

[www.blackmonmooring.com](http://www.blackmonmooring.com)  
[amber@dalworth.com](mailto:amber@dalworth.com)  
[www.dalworth.com](http://www.dalworth.com)  
[www.servicemasterdfw.com](http://www.servicemasterdfw.com)  
[ldevlin@servproofgrapevine.com](mailto:ldevlin@servproofgrapevine.com)

For additional information on seminars that offer 1 hour of CE monthly in the DFW Metroplex, please go to:

<a href="http://www.dallasclaims.com">www.dallasclaims.com</a>	<a href="http://www.fortworthclaims.com">www.fortworthclaims.com</a>
<a href="http://www.maryroth.com">www.maryroth.com</a>	<a href="http://www.InsureDallas.org">www.InsureDallas.org</a>
<a href="http://www.TheNationalAlliance.com">www.TheNationalAlliance.com</a>	<a href="http://www.kfeducation.com">www.kfeducation.com</a>
<a href="http://www.cceucation.com">www.cceucation.com</a>	<a href="http://www.touchstonebernays.com">www.touchstonebernays.com</a>
<a href="http://www.ceu.com">www.ceu.com</a>	<a href="http://www.TXCE.com">www.TXCE.com</a>
<a href="http://www.irmi.com">www.irmi.com</a>	<a href="http://www.webce.com">www.webce.com</a>
<a href="http://www.cceducation.com">www.cceducation.com</a>	<a href="http://www.kaplanfinancial.com">www.kaplanfinancial.com</a>



## NAIW DALLAS – OUT & ABOUT

Submit your recent photos of outings, vacations, new babies (hint, hint!) or any other photos that you might like to share!



Speaking of ... check out our very own members below, at the 2010 Texas Council Meeting, in San Antonio this past October!

Shown from left to right: Mildred Rainey, Pamela Scofield, Joi Wilson, Dee McCullough, with Christina McCracken seated.



## DECEMBER PUZZLE PAGE

A	B	S	P	I	R	I	T	L	R	E	H	S	A	D	G	O	O	D	W	I	L	L	C	D	E
C	S	D	Y	E	F	G	G	H	E	I	C	A	R	D	S	A	E	L	C	A	R	I	M	J	F
B	G	W	P	R	E	R	R	T	N	O	A	E	Y	Y	U	I	R	E	B	M	E	C	E	D	G
A	N	A	P	D	R	E	U	N	I	O	N	S	L	F	A	M	I	L	Y	D	F	R	G	E	H
F	I	R	A	I	L	E	L	F	P	K	D	P	O	E	J	W	R	E	A	T	H	E	H	C	A
Z	D	E	H	P	A	T	M	N	R	H	L	A	H	S	B	C	Z	B	X	N	Y	C	C	O	K
Y	I	G	J	U	B	I	L	E	E	O	E	R	O	T	N	R	H	L	L	B	D	N	V	R	K
X	T	O	M	C	Q	N	B	E	L	L	S	T	L	I	W	E	A	I	E	R	N	A	E	A	U
W	D	O	O	I	I	G	U	R	P	I	E	T	L	V	Y	D	S	T	M	T	A	R	K	T	N
P	A	R	A	D	E	S	P	G	L	D	I	E	Y	A	S	T	K	Z	E	N	C	P	A	I	A
V	N	C	D	L	S	F	E	S	G	A	K	M	H	L	S	T	J	E	L	V	E	S	C	O	H
U	C	S	S	M	E	A	G	A	Z	Y	O	O	X	C	V	V	H	R	B	N	T	Y	T	N	P
R	E	H	U	J	K	O	G	C	S	T	O	C	K	I	N	G	S	G	L	F	M	L	I	S	L
A	R	L	D	G	G	F	N	R	D	O	C	H	D	O	N	N	E	R	I	S	A	L	U	K	O
T	P	E	T	R	A	E	O	E	O	R	N	A	M	E	N	T	S	G	W	L	Q	O	R	L	D
S	L	L	O	D	Y	R	G	D	Y	Q	W	M	E	S	E	L	C	I	C	I	R	J	F	D	U
S	Q	G	M	I	S	T	L	E	T	O	E	E	K	T	A	L	S	T	N	E	S	E	R	P	R
P	I	H	S	R	O	W	I	H	O	T	J	N	K	L	P	O	O	I	U	Y	V	E	T	C	H
T	R	A	D	I	T	I	O	N	Y	F	U	O	D	S	A	Z	X	C	V	B	I	N	M	O	I
T	Z	S	D	F	G	H	J	S	S	E	N	R	E	H	T	E	G	O	T	D	X	K	L	M	J
N	O	I	T	A	C	A	V	Q	W	E	E	A	K	R	A	E	Y	W	E	N	E	R	T	E	K
S	D	N	A	L	R	E	D	N	O	W	L	H	Y	E	X	W	V	L	U	T	N	S	R	T	L
W	I	N	T	E	R	R	Q	R	D	I	T	E	L	U	Y	P	O	N	M	R	E	T	N	I	W

BELLS

ELVES

LIGHTS

SLED

BLITZER

FIR

LISTS

STAR

CANDY

FROSTY

MENORAH

TINSEL

CHIMNEY

FRUITCAKE

MIRACLE

TOGETHERNESS

COMET

GIFTS

MISTLETOE

TOYS

COOKIES

GOODWILL

NEW YEAR

TRADITION

CUPID

HAM

NOEL

TURKEY

DANCER

HANUKKAH

PIE

VACATION

DASHER

HAPPY

PINE

VIXEN

DECEMBER

HOLLY

PLUMS

WINTER

DECORATIONS

HOLY

PRANCER

WONDERLAND

DOLLS

ICICLES

PRESENTS

WORSHIP

DONNER

JOLLY

RUDOLPH

YULETIDE

DREIDEL

LATKE

SACRED



## BIZARRE HOLIDAYS CELEBRATED IN DECEMBER

(Some you may have known about and some you may learn about ... )

December 1 is . . . . National Pie Day and Eat A Red Apple Day  
December 2 is . . . . National Fritters Day  
December 3 is . . . . National Roof-Over-Your-Head Day  
December 4 is . . . . Wear Brown Shoes Day  
December 5 is . . . . National Sacher Torte Day  
December 6 is . . . . National Gazpacho Day and Mitten Tree Day  
December 7 is . . . . National Cotton Candy Day  
December 8 is . . . . Take It In The Ear Day  
December 9 is . . . . National Pastry Day  
December 10 is . . . . Festival For The Souls Of Dead Whales  
December 11 is . . . . National Noodle Ring Day  
December 12 is . . . . National Ding-A-Ling Day  
December 13 is . . . . Ice Cream and Violins Day  
December 14 is . . . . National Bouillabaisse Day  
December 15 is . . . . National Lemon Cupcake Day  
December 16 is . . . . National Chocolate Covered Anything Day  
December 17 is . . . . Underdog Day and National Maple Syrup Day  
December 18 is . . . . National Roast Suckling Pig Day  
December 19 is . . . . Oatmeal Muffin Day  
December 20 is . . . . Games Day  
December 21 is . . . . Look At The Bright Side Day, National Flashlight Day,  
National French Fried Shrimp Day, and Hamburger Day  
December 22 is . . . . National Date-Nut Bread Day  
December 23 is . . . . Roots Day  
December 24 is . . . . National Egg Nog Day  
December 25 is . . . . National Pumpkin Pie Day  
December 26 is . . . . National Whiners Day  
December 27 is . . . . National Fruitcake Day  
December 28 is . . . . Card Playing Day and National Chocolate Day  
December 29 is . . . . Pepper Pot Day  
December 30 is . . . . Festival Of Enormous Changes At The Last Minute and  
National Bicarbonate Of Soda Day  
December 31 is . . . . Unlucky Day



## DECEMBER RECIPE

With the holidays upon us and with guests dropping by, a great item to have on hand is the Christmas Cheese Ball shown below. The colors are festive, with its green, red, and white and goes wonderfully with your favorite sparkling wine or chardonnay.



### **Ingredients**

- 1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese, softened
- 2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese
- 2 green onions, chopped
- 1 (2 ounce) jar diced pimientos, drained
- 2 tablespoons butter or margarine, melted
- 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
- Assorted crackers

### **Directions**

In a mixing bowl, beat cream cheese until fluffy. Beat in cheddar cheese, onions, pimientos, butter and Worcestershire sauce. Press into a small bowl; smooth top. Cover and refrigerate. Remove from the refrigerator 15 minutes before unmolding. Serve with crackers.



## REMINDERS

Don't forget to respond to the "Evite" if you have not already done so, to reserve your place at the dinner table on Tuesday Night --- the deadline is **TODAY!**

Continue to bring in your donations for Metrocrest and of course if you are able to volunteer for the Santa's Helper event, please let Bina know.

As always, should you have any suggestions, corrections, or future contributions, please forward them to my attention.

Also, please remember ... to ensure timely circulation and posting of the NAIW Dallas Connections Newsletter, all articles, Committee Chair reports, and any other contributions for the Connections Newsletter should be submitted no later than **December 31<sup>st</sup>** for our next publication.

Here's hoping that everyone has an absolutely joyous and wonderful holiday season!

Julie Farthing, CMIA  
Newsletter Chairman  
Farthing.Julie@aaa-texas.com

