

# WOMEN IN NECA Roundtable Discussion



## “Women in NECA: Being the Best at Being Yourself”

*If you're a woman involved in the electrical contracting industry, Women In NECA wants you to join us for this once-a-year event! This event is open to all women attending NECA 2012 Las Vegas.*

Monday, Oct. 1 - 2-4 p.m.  
Reef A&D, Mandalay Bay Convention Center

**The Women in NECA Roundtable at NECA 2012 Las Vegas will be a wide-ranging panel discussion with three successful women NECA contractors, moderated by WIN Chair Rachel Barber.**

- focus on issues affecting your professional development and find career opportunities in electrical contracting
- meet your fellow women working in the industry and, learn from women who have made special contributions to electrical contracting

### **GLORIA ASHFORD, *President, Ashford Electric & Construction Co. - Kirkland, WA***

Gloria Ashford has been an electrical contractor for 27 years. Her company is 100 percent woman-owned and a state-certified WBE. Ashford's specialty markets include wastewater treatment facilities and other water-control infrastructure.

Ashford was elected President of the Puget Sound Chapter Board of Directors in 1995 and is currently in her fifth year as chapter president. She was appointed to her local JATC where she served ten years, five as chair. In 2007, she was inducted as the first woman Fellow inducted in the Academy of Electrical Contracting. She was elected to the Academy's board of directors in 2011.

She has two adult sons in the business, four awesome grandchildren, and one very supportive husband.

### **SUSAN ERNST, *Owner/President/CEO, Royal Electric Construction Corp. - Columbus, OH***

Susan Ernst is the owner, president and CEO of Royal Electric Construction Corp. for the last 15 years. Prior to that, she was part owner of a Columbus, Ohio-based computer training company.

Royal's niche is specialty electrical systems installations, including temperature control, fire alarm, security, as well as industrial systems like fleet management and tunnel boring. Royal has won NECA's safety award for the past four years.

Susan has three grown children, two grandchildren, was a girl scout leader, a yoga student, a prior WIN officer (that is, Women's Investing Network) and is currently serving NECA as the Central Ohio Chapter President and JATC Trustee.

### **LYNNE D. HARKER, *CEO/EVP/CFO/Co-Owner, Placer Electric, Sacramento, CA***

Lynne Harker has been in electrical construction since 1974. In 1978 she started Placer Electric with her then-husband and still-partner Richard Nogleberg, operating out of their home with only two other employees.

PEI is headquartered in Sacramento, with a satellite office in Nevada. The company is heavily involved in industrial facilities, "clean rooms," medical facilities, pump stations and water treatment plants. PEI also has a 24-hour service department. Lynne is the RMO Qualifier on the C-10 contractor's license for the firm. As well as overseeing the estimating and field personnel, Lynne manages the general supervision, direction, and control of Placer Electric Incorporated.

Lynne entered electrical contracting via marriage, but she made the industry into a lifelong career. Nogleberg was heavily involved with NECA, so Lynne took over much of their company's daily operations, concentrating on building relationships with their field staff. Early on, she became aware of an "us and them" attitude, and she set out to change it. Today PEI is acknowledged as a corporate leader in positive workforce relationship-building.

**A joint reception with NECA's Future Leaders and Business Development groups will be held from 4-5 p.m.**