



NAHB Professional
Women in Building

NAHB PWB Milestones

1955

NAHB Women's Auxiliary is chartered. The Building Hope Scholarship awards \$1,000.

1956 to 1959

The auxiliary is nurtured. The first dues increase – to \$2 – is challenged.

1960

With the theme, "Together We Build," the Legislative Committee is formed.

1961

Educational programs promoting the public image of builders are developed. Housing conferences are held nationwide.

1963

First meeting of the Spikette Club and Past Presidents Council. President Robbie Shoemaker travels more than 30,000 miles during 21 trips.

1964

President Polly Shafer leads a national "Get out to Vote" campaign that contributes to Congress passing a \$1 billion housing and urban renewal bill.

1965

With 59 local chapters, NAHB involves the auxiliary in its legislative efforts and local legislative committees are formed.

1966

First Spikette Party sponsored by InSinkerator™. President is requested by NAHB to report at the national board of directors meeting.

1973

First executive director hired. Dues increased to \$6.

1974

First woman builder elected president of the auxiliary.

1975

Auxiliary president is invited to attend NAHB executive meeting as an observer.

1979

Highest membership, with more than 10,000 members.

1980

First appointee named to NAHB BUILD-PAC, first full-time executive officer and creation of the first legislative manual. Grassroots lobbying effort sends thousands of 2x4's to Congress.

1982

Auxiliary's meetings published for the first time in the official NAHB program.

1985

First Woman of the Year Award.

1986

Legislative and political action role is strengthened with a 25% increase in BUILD-PAC participation.

1989

Name change to NAHB Women's Council with revised bylaws. First general membership meeting, leadership seminars and Women's Symposium at the convention; new strategic plan implemented.

1990

Women's Council secured as a separate affiliate of NAHB. Women's Council invited to England to participate in the Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition.

1991

Standing-room-only attendance at the first sponsored seminars held at the convention.

1992

"Build a Better America" is published, a program with manuals of local grassroots political and legislative efforts to guide other chapters.

1993

President Barbara (Barbie) Wickman serves as a BUILD-PAC executive committee member, trustee and Capitol Club chairman. "Build a Better America" publishes, "Mobilizing at the Grassroots Level."

1994

New membership drive record. National education program is developed, promoting environmental issues in the housing industry. Barbie Wickman is named NAHB Outstanding Congressional Contact of the Year.

1996

“Four Decades of Positive Involvement in the National Association of Home Builders: A History of the NAHB Women’s Council” is published.

2000

Member Scholarship and Educational and Travel Grant Program is created. Members rally for NAHB’s Home Builders Care campaign.

2001

National Housing Endowment NAHB PWB “Strategies for Success” scholarship program is initiated.

2003

First issues of Building Women magazine and We-Connect e-newsletter are published.

2009

Name is changed to NAHB Professional Women in Building.

2012

PWB contributes \$38,100 to BUILD-PAC, adds 800-plus PWB members into BuilderLink and 37 PWB BUILD-PAC Stakeholders. National PWB awards more than \$35,000 in scholarships to councils and individual members.

2013

Nearly half of the women who serve on the NAHB executive committee have come through the ranks of PWB leadership. Seven PWB members are presidents of their local HBA/BIA.

2014

Dissolution of NAHB PWB as an independent corporation structure. NAHB Board of Directors approves NAHB PWB as a fully integrated council of NAHB.

2016

NAHB Professional Women in Building Week launches – an annual federation-wide event celebrating women as a visible component of the residential construction industry.

2018

PWB brings together an elite group of executives from the largest national female-centered construction trade associations to the International Builders’ Show to address the labor shortage and share resources that encourage construction training opportunities and leadership paths for women in the industry.

2020

Nineteen Home Builders Associations charter a PWB Council, the most PWB councils formed in one year.

2025

NAHB Professional Women in Building Council celebrates its 70th anniversary.