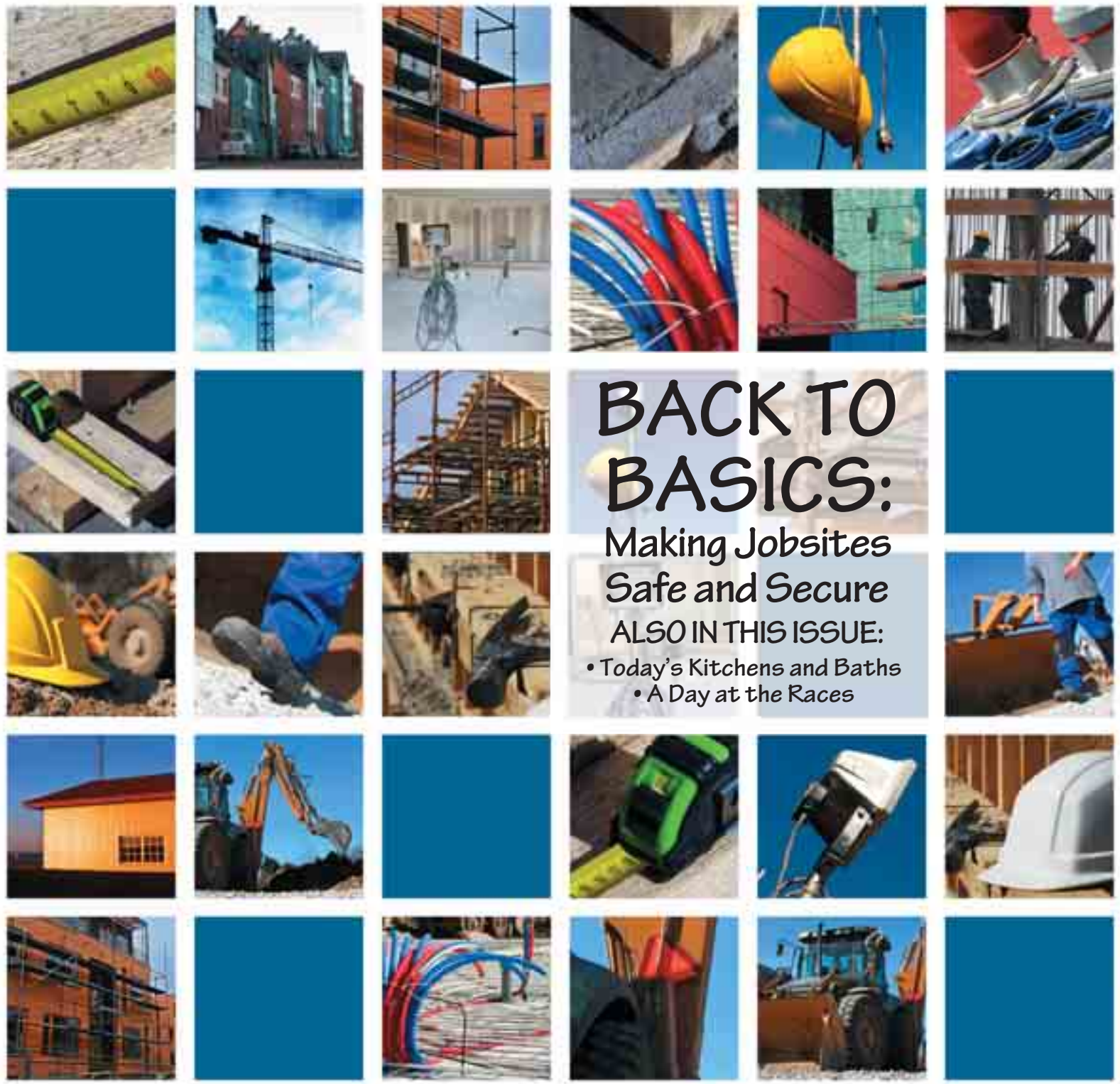


BUILDING

IN MARYLAND AND WASHINGTON, DC



BACK TO BASICS:

Making Jobsites Safe and Secure

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

- Today's Kitchens and Baths
- A Day at the Races

Celebrity Chefs



What a Spread!

Perhaps it was the Maryland Terps beating the California Bears in the first round of the NCAA tournament, or maybe the array of tantalizing food spread out across the ballroom of Martin's Crosswinds in Greenbelt, MD, that put everyone in a good mood. Whatever the cause, the room was filled with warm handshakes and laughter by the more than 200 attendees that turned out for this year's Celebrity Chefs. Commenting on the event, MNCBIA President Tom Farasy said, "I'm really pleased with the turnout and the great festive atmosphere. I've met a lot of new members and that's what BIA is all about."

MNCBIA has been holding Celebrity Chefs for more than a decade, with many of the same builder chefs returning year after year. Some of the builder companies serving up dishes for the evening included, Rosenthal Homes with its potato skin bar, Elm Street Development and its spicy chicken wings (and extra napkins), Kettler Brothers Homes with its always popular sushi, and Pleasants Development, Inc. serving up its best-seller, shrimp cocktail. In between topping shrimp-filled martini glasses with cocktail sauce, Pleasant's Lisa Smith took a break to comment on the evening. "It's wonderful to get together and to share ideas with fellow members. You just feel good!" Porten Homes and the Bozzuto Group both went with a meatball course, Porten making up mini meatball subs and Bozzuto serving tortellini meatball soup. "I've been rolling meatballs all day," said Bozzuto's Clark Wagner. At the K. Hovnanian table you could snack on sausages

while competing in its March Madness Shootout. And to balance out all the meat with your daily supply of fiber, Miller & Smith offered up a veggie tray. For the dessert course, there was Artery Homes with a collection of confections and Terra Verde Communities scooping ice cream sundaes with all the toppings.

The builder chefs weren't the only attention-getters of the evening. Associate tabletops drew numerous members with great products and tasty treats. Some of the companies displaying their products and services were Geo-Technology Associates, Inc., supplying steak sandwiches over environmental consultations; Metropolitan Fire Protection, educating people on fire sprinkler design while daring oyster lovers to try their oyster shooters; Leahy & Desmet, offering legal advice along with homemade ziti with asparagus, mozzarella, and prosciutto; and long-time exhibitor and chef Loiederman Soltez Associates, Inc. (LSA), dishing up steaming bowls of chili while dishing about land development engineering. "We've been doing Celebrity Chefs for eight years and every year it gets better. It's our favorite event!" said LSA's Eden Denevan. Associate members didn't skimp on desserts either. McMillan Metro P.C. offered a table full of home-baked goodies, Ice Edge Business Solutions lured people to its table with cupcakes almost too pretty to eat from "Cake Love" bakery, and rivers of milk and dark chocolate flowed from fountains at both Maier & Warner's and Greenhorne & O'Mara's tables.



Celebrity Chefs is one of MNCBIA's most popular events and takes months of planning and preparation. Many thanks are owed to the Celebrity Chefs Committee, made up of Co-Chairs, **Karen Radisch**, 1st Mariner Mortgage, and **Hillary Colt Cahan**, Konterra, plus **Michael Bell**, the bell company, **Charlene Parker**, christopher consultants, ltd., and **Heidi Dale Synowiec**, 1st Mariner Mortgage. ■