



CHRIS EGNER, MCR, CR, CKBR, UDCP, CRPM, CCP
CHRIS EGNER DESIGN-BUILD-REMODEL/FOUR SEASONS SUNROOMS

HENRY FENDERBOSCH LEADERSHIP AWARD

NARI Milwaukee, Inc.'s executive committee nominates Chris Egner, MCR, CR, CKBR, UDCP, CRPM, CCP for the 2022 NARI Henry Fenderbosch Leadership Award.

Chris has been part of the home improvement and remodeling industry for over 30 years. His involvement with NARI began in May of 1993 when he became the lead designer at Four Seasons Sunrooms who has been a member of NARI Milwaukee since 1986. He became owner of the company in 2012 and added the design-build-remodel division.

Chris manages and coordinates the construction of all types of remodeling projects, specializing in residential additions and whole house remodels, plus he designs custom homes. He is known as an expert in Chief Architect 3D computer design and production of full concept and permitting plans and construction documents not only for his clients but other design/build/remodel firms as well. Chris' company offers products and services related to sunrooms, conservatories, second story additions, interior remodeling, space reconfiguring, kitchens, baths, lower levels, and universal design.

A Certified Lead Safe Renovator, Chris has been affiliated with the NARI Milwaukee during most of his career in the industry, and over the last decade, he has stepped up his participation and become a valued resource within the association not only locally but nationally.

A regular participant in NARI Milwaukee's education and certification team since 1998, Chris has shown his commitment to education in the industry starting by earning several NARI Certifications. When Chris entered a career in the remodeling and construction trades he realized the market was very competitive. He wanted to set himself and his business apart and believed one of the best ways to do that was to be recognized as a professional and industry expert. He received his first certification, Certified Remodeler (CR), in August 1998. Designations followed with Universal Design Certified Remodeler (UDCP) in March of 2011 and soon after he earned his Master Certified Remodeler (MCR) designation.

As a believer in continuing education his certifications didn't stop. In fall of 2013 he earned the Certified Remodeler Project Manager (CRPM) designation and Certified Kitchen & Bath Remodeler (CKBR) designation in spring of 2016.

Chris was also an early member of the NARI Milwaukee remodeling trades workforce development team. He participated in speaking to youth and adults about career opportunities in the home improvement and remodeling industry.

In 2013 through the spring of 2014, Chris served as the chair of the website redesign task force. The task force was comprised of members from several association work teams, and Chris ably led them through the process of identifying what would be incorporated into the new site. Under Chris' leadership, the group developed the wish list of site attributes and coordinated the RFP process and eventually delivering a new website to the membership.

For the last half of 2014 and all of 2015, Chris served as the chairperson of the association's marketing committee, coordinating the promotional efforts to keep NARI Milwaukee and its members at the forefront for those looking for a home improvement and remodeling contractor. In this role, Chris served as a spokesperson for the chapter, handling media interviews with aplomb. In 2015, Chris worked closely with our marketing agency specifically on new radio commercials promoting the association and certified professionals.

Chris regularly served as a panelist at NARI Milwaukee consumer education seminars and he is a frequent guest on the area's "Remodeling Show" and "The NARI Home Improvement Show" radio programs. He has been a featured speaker at local home shows and as a participant in the "Ask a NARI Certified Professional" booth at NARI Milwaukee consumer shows.

Chris has served on every NARI Milwaukee work team in his tenure. He was elected to the NARI Milwaukee board of directors in 2013 and served as a director until 2015. Chris was elected to serve as the association's treasurer beginning in January 2016 followed by vice president and president in 2018. Chris was an attendee of NARI National semi-annual business meetings 2012 to 2015 and attended serving as a chapter delegate 2016 to 2019.

During this time, Chris also served nationally on the education and certification, government affairs, strategic planning, workforce development, bylaws & ethics and chair of finance committee. As the

finance chair he also served on the board of directors. Chris has been part of the NARI education and certification committee and worked to re-write the CLC, CR and CKBR study manuals. Chris also served as a Contractor of the Year (CotY) judge for several years.

As Chris moved to immediate past president of NARI Milwaukee, his wasn't done with his passion, dedication and desire for success of NARI and the remodeling industry. Chris took the knowledge, skills and experience gained from involvement and leadership of the largest chapter of NARI and residing on numerous national committees and taskforces to the next level. In April 2019, Chris was elected secretary of NARI and now an officer and member of the executive leadership.

Chris has proceeded to hold national office of treasurer; president elect and unexpectedly in September of 2021 voted to interim president at the step down of the current president taking a medical leave. Between 2019 and September 2021 Chris not only represented NARI in leadership around the country, as a board member and member of the executive team, but also further served on the bylaws and ethics, membership, marketing, finance and audit and awards committees; certification and chapter standards boards, and the budget task force. With his interim president role now serving on the chapter executive forum and chapter presidents forum.

The 2020 pandemic hit NARI chapter affiliates hard with state shutdowns and safer at home mandates. The financial stress and overall hardship at the chapter levels created a few chapters to have unprecedented negative reaction towards NARI. A couple chapters revolted over a scheduled dues increase, a leadership system that has worked for over 60 years they now felt was not fairly representing the members, and what they considered a lack of a long-term strategic plan to which was publicly available. Further, they felt chapters were not being valued or recognized for their role in the association. The revolt spearheaded by one chapter and greatly supported by five others created immense stress on the national office, national volunteer leaders, the other approximate 35 chapters and volunteers across the country. Chris and the rest of the executive team were meeting continuously to address the allegations and public relations nightmare.

As much as the association's national board tried to make amends, nothing they did was satisfying the few. Chris was part of the Board of Directors to make the hardest decision to terminate its chapter agreement with one chapter for an inability on the part of chapter leadership to maintain a positive and productive working relationship with NARI National. A day no one ever thought would come. After that, the supporting other five chapters one by one terminated their own relationship

with national. Some of these chapters had volunteers in national leadership as committee chairs and seats on the board. This caused Chris and the other officers to realign chairs and onboard new board members mid-term. Chris as interim president is working tirelessly with chapter leaders, volunteer and paid, to mend relations, address concerns and eliminate possible long-term effects of a few. His efforts have started restoring levels of trust and stopped further chapters from considering disaffiliating with NARI.

In November of 2021, NARI national had a significant staff change at the resignation of the chief executive officer. The continued stress and level of responsibility on Chris as interim president wasn't ending. He assumed significant leadership responsibility of the NARI office in partnership with the newly appointed interim CEO, Elsie Iturralde, CAE. Chris is now leading a search for a new CEO. Operations at NARI needed attention and Chris has stepped up to turn a significant portion of this attention to NARI from his personal business – more so than he was already doing as interim president of the association and dealing with chapter relations. He has assured staff, chapters and members with a positive outlook.

Chris has been recognized by NARI Milwaukee through these awards:

- NARI Milwaukee Remodeler of the Year awards in various years and remodeling categories
- 2012 Certified Professional of the Year Award
- 2013 Professionalism Award
- 2013 and 2014 NARI Milwaukee President's Award
- 2014 Gordy Ziglinski "Spirit of Education" Award
- 2017 Government Affairs Award
- 2019 Marvin Johnson Meritorious Service Award

Recognized by NARI through these awards

- 2014 National Professionalism Award
- 2021 NARI CotY Regional Team Winner, Residential Landscape Design/Outdoor Living over \$250,000, Region 3 North Central
- 2021 NARI CotY National Team Winner, Residential Landscape Design/Outdoor Living over \$250,000

Chris has been, and will continue to be, a valued asset to NARI and a highly respected industry professional – nationally and locally, to the home improvement and remodeling industry, and to the community. He is an inspiration to all for his immense dedication and leadership for accomplishing

these and many other efforts volunteering at the national level, engaging at the chapter level all while still running a successful design and build remodeling firm. No one goes into volunteer leadership expecting to deal with the magnitude of challenges Chris has faced, specifically over the past two years. His commitment to the association and to the industry falls into the category of 'one of a kind.' It takes an amazing level of commitment, drive and passion to do what Chris has done and will continue to do for an association in a volunteer role and do it for over 20 years. Chris would be an extremely worthy recipient of the 2022 NARI Henry Fenderbosch Leadership Award.

We ask that you consider honoring Chris Egner, MCR, CR, CKBR, UDCP, CRPM, CCP for the 2022 NARI Henry Fenderbosch Leadership Award.

Thank you for your time and consideration.
The NARI Milwaukee Executive Committee

A 2013 press release:

Christopher Egner Earns Milwaukee NARI Certified Professional of the Year Award

By Dave Amoroso
Jan. 22, 2013

The Milwaukee Chapter of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI), the area's leading home improvement and remodeling industry resource for more than 51 years, presented Christopher Egner of New Berlin, Wis., owner of Chris Egner Design-Build-Remodel/Four Seasons Sunrooms, with the association's 2012 Certified Professional of the Year Award at its annual Awards Night held Fr., Jan. 18, at The InterContinental Hotel in Milwaukee, Wis.

The Certified Professional of the Year Award recognizes a person who's been a Certified Professional for at least three years and has continued to excel in the field, while sharing professional experience and expertise with other association members.

Egner earned his Certified Remodeler designation in 1998 and achieved Universal Design Certified Remodeler status through NARI in March of 2011. Later that year, he received the Master Certified Remodeler (MCR) designation through NARI, which recognizes NARI Certified Remodelers (CRs) who have stood the test of time and continue to be successful in the remodeling industry. MCRs have demonstrated commitment to the remodeling industry through support of their local NARI chapter, NARI National, and/or their local community and have consistently upheld the "NARI Code of Ethics."

In addition to owning the company, Egner serves as its Lead Designer. Known for 3D computer design and production of full working plans and construction documents, he manages and coordinates the construction of all types of remodeling projects, specializing in residential additions and whole house remodels, plus he designs custom homes.

A regular participant in Milwaukee/NARI's Education Committee since 1998, Egner regularly serves as a panelist at Milwaukee/NARI consumer education seminars and consumer home repair television shows. He has been a frequent

guest on WISN-AM 1130 "Remodeling Show," as well as a featured speaker at local home shows and a participant in the "Ask a NARI Certified Professional" booth at Milwaukee/NARI consumer shows.

A trusted resource for print and electronic media reporters, many of Egner's design projects have been featured in television shows and in magazine and newspaper articles.

Egner has also earned his Certified Construction Professional designation in 2008, and achieved Lead Safe Renovator status in December 2009 through the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Press Release NARI

September 15, 2021 – The Board of Directors of The National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI) today announced that Dennis Gehman, President of the NARI Board of Directors, is taking a medical leave from the volunteer leadership position.

"Beginning a leave of absence during my term as president was a difficult decision to make, but it is the right decision for my family, for me and for NARI, a professional organization that has benefited me throughout my career," Dennis said. He founded Gehman Design Remodeling, which has provided home addition and remodeling services in Harleysville, Pa., since 1990. "I look forward to the prospect of returning to a leadership position on the NARI board in the future," he added.

NARI President-Elect Chris Egner has now assumed the duties of board president upon the conclusion of the last regularly scheduled meeting of the board in September. Chris was previously president of NARI Milwaukee, NARI's largest chapter.

Dennis adds that, "Chris will be an outstanding leader and has my complete confidence. His experience brings together a national perspective about current issues in our profession and his understanding of the important role of local chapters. He is a successful businessperson who knows firsthand the benefits of NARI for remodelers everywhere."