

NewsBriefs

Newsletter of the Architectural Woodwork Institute

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SUPPLIER

Executive Millwork Corporation

North Salem, NY ■

INSIDE...

Professional Development 2-4

Association News..... 4

Editorial Mission

NewsBriefs reports on AWI resources and programs that help members improve their operating efficiency and profitability.

SkillsUSA Champions: Tomorrow's Woodworkers

A champion is a winner of first prize or first place in competition; also, one who shows marked superiority, according to the *Merriam Webster Collegiate Dictionary*. SkillsUSA breeds champions for the workforce.

On June 23-27 in Kansas City, MO, over 5,000 students from every state and three territories assembled for the 2008 SkillsUSA Championships to compete in 91 different trade, technical and leadership fields. The annual Cabinetmaking Competition was among them. Supported by AWI for many years, the 2008 contest brought together AWI members who worked for one year to plan, prepare for, and oversee the annual event that included 62 contestants, each of whom is a state-level gold medallist.

(continued on page 2)



Photo courtesy of Clay Allen

Sixty-two contestants competed in the 2008 SkillsUSA Cabinetmaking Contest. The project included a door/lid and drawer mounted on "Blum" hinges and "Tandem Soft Close Guides."

Take a Tour ... At AWI Fall Leadership Event

The 2008 Annual AWI Fall Leadership Event, October 1-4, 2008, in Providence, Rhode Island, will feature one of the popular benefits of association membership – observing the successful operations of AWI members. And, while you're at it add in a few cultural tours to round out your stay. AWI President Richard Ungerbuehler, Sr. says, "Providence is an excellent venue, a beautiful environment, and a state capital city offering much to see and do within walking distance of the Westin Providence hotel."

Industry Plant Tours

Industry Plant Tours are always well attended by members who gain ideas from other successful architectural woodworkers. On October 3 registrants will visit the plants of a global supplier and two architectural woodworkers.

(continued on page 3)

Skills USA Champions... (cont. from page 1)

Cabinetmaking Project

This year, the national Cabinetmaking Competition was a unique challenge for the competitors, "but may be considered routine to many in our industry," according to AWI SkillsUSA Committee Chairman Kent Gilchrist of Fremont Interiors, Inc.

"Our project included a door/lid and drawer mounted on "Blum" hinges and "Tandem Soft Close Guides." We added inlays in the top of the piece to test our competitors on their finite machine skills and attention to detail. We use industry standards in our fabrication (mortise and tenon, dado, biscuit and miters) and assembly techniques as well as current design styles. The winners' ability to read and understand the drawings and details and then execute the project has proven to be the best at this year's competition," Kent reported.

In addition to being a state-level champion, "a student wins the national contest because he/she has come prepared, organized and works well under pressure," Kent added.



Photo courtesy of Clay Men

Front row (left) Kent Gilchrist, AWI SkillsUSA Committee Chair and national technical committee member, joins national Cabinetmaking Contest winners along with Jerry Allen (front row, far right), Allen Millwork Company, and national technical committee member.

Winners/Workforce

The top three finishers in the two academic categories are:

Secondary/High School Division

1. Mason H. Sandow, Blackfoot High School, Blackfoot, ID
2. Arron Clay, Berks CTC-East Campus, Leesport, PA
3. Eric Portz, River Valley Senior High School, Spring Green, WI

Post Secondary/College Division

1. Justin Van Loo, Hennepin Tech College, Coon Rapids, MN
2. Andrew Flores, Mission Trails, ROP, Salinas, CA
3. Mathew Henke, Utah Valley State College, Delta, UT

"Congratulations to all the winners. If you are interested in hiring a SkillsUSA competitor don't wait too long," Kent said.

Impressive Scope

The SkillsUSA Championships began in 1967. The annual competition takes place in 787,482 square feet of space (equivalent to the area of more than 16 football fields).

AWI supports SkillsUSA on the national level and many AWI chapters support the regional competitions. ■



AWI thanks the following individuals and organizations for their efforts and support of this program. Sincere appreciation also is extended to the advisors, educators, and equipment suppliers for their generosity.

AWI SkillsUSA Committee

Kent Gilchrist (Chair)

Fremont Interiors, Inc.

Jerry Allen

Allen Millwork

Noah Cohen

Cohen Architectural Woodworking

Fred Leach

Unique Concepts

Charlie Zizumbo

Salina Planing Mill

Kristine Cox

Rowland Woodworking
(AWI member guest)

Materials and Supplies

Blum

Kansas City, KS

Case Supply

Wichita, KS

Flexible Materials

Jeffersonville, IN

Liberty Hardwoods, Inc.

Kansas City, MO

Lowe's Home Improvement

Roeland Park, KS

The Courter Company

Indianapolis, IN

Photo courtesy of Rhode Island School of Design



Providence, home to the acclaimed Rhode Island School of Design (RISD), is a haven for artists and entertainers and features the largest number of working artists in the country. RISD is on the "Driving Tour of Providence" and the "Artistic Providence Tour," both of which are offered on October 2.

Take a Tour... (cont. from page 1)

• Tyco Fire & Building Products

Tyco's plant and global R&D Center of Excellence in Cranston, RI, will be the first stop. A 125-year old company, Tyco is the world's leading manufacturer of water-based fire suppression systems. The company's state-of-the-art international manufacturing facilities have all been granted ISO 9000 approvals. Tyco's manufacturing facilities implement Six Sigma and Lean processes to ensure production efficiencies and negligible quality variations. The company maintains over 50 regional offices in 18 countries and employs more than 3,000 personnel worldwide.

• Monarch Industries, Inc.

For over 55 years, Monarch Industries, headquartered in Warren, RI, has manufactured and installed architectural millwork and store fixtures for the leading developers, contractors, and retailers in the nation. From the company's five facilities and nearly one million square feet of manufacturing space Monarch builds, finishes, and installs over \$65 million of millwork and store fixtures a year. The company's engineering department has both CAD/CAM capabilities as well as traditional hard board drafting. Monarch Industries is an AWI Quality Certification Program participant.

• Herrick & White, LTD

Founded in 1977 as a two-man woodworking shop in a small garage, Herrick & White, LTD has grown to a 55,000 square



Photo courtesy of Rhode Island Historical Society (c) 2008

The "Artistic Providence Tour" on October 2 includes a visit to John Brown House, a three story Georgian home built in 1786 where you'll step into the world of 18th century wealth and power.

foot manufacturing facility utilizing state-of-the-art technology. The company services the public and commercial market with traditional wood doors, windows, mouldings, contemporary European style cabinetry and solid surface materials. Herrick & White also serves the store fixture and residential millwork markets. The company has produced work for customers throughout the United States and as far away as London and Tokyo. Herrick & White is a participant in the AWI Quality Certification Program.

Attractions, Cultural Tours

While in Rhode Island for the AWI Fall Leadership Event, members and spouses will have ample opportunities for sightseeing. Fourteen tours are sprinkled throughout the four days of activities. Four centuries of history are alive and well in Providence which was founded in 1636. Enjoy this vibrant region that is home to eight colleges and universities in the Providence/Warwick area, including Brown University and the renowned Rhode Island School of Design. Plan to be captivated by Providence's natural and man-made beauty, history, artistic scene, water activities, and acclaimed cuisine.

Registration

Visit www.awinet.org to register for the 2008 Annual AWI Fall Leadership Event. Consult the enclosed brochure for the full schedule of business sessions, tours, and

social activities. The deadline to make hotel accommodations at the special AWI rate is September 6. The Fall Leadership Event registration deadline is September 1. ■

Indulge in a gondola ride at WaterPlace Park and enjoy the series of Venice-inspired bridges that connect downtown Providence to the city's historic East Side.



Photo courtesy of Providence Warwick Convention & Visitors Bureau

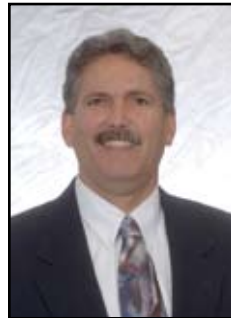
Fall Leadership Event Features A Winning "Lean" & Mean Workshop

The AWI Fall Leadership Event also features a dynamic workshop about Lean Manufacturing, "Lean Overview with Lego Simulation," which is sponsored by the AWI New England Chapter. Attendees at the four-hour workshop, the morning of October 1, can soak up knowledge for lively discussions on the links at the AWI Golf Outing that afternoon.

Experience Lean Manufacturing in an interactive environment that illustrates the potential benefits of a systematic approach to eliminating wastes and creating flow on the plant floor. The simulation demonstrates and compares various layouts and flow systems. The presentation addresses the principles of Lean Manufacturing, the eight wastes and Lean tools, and how to develop an implementation road map. Discover the improvements in lead-time, delivery, quality, and cost metrics that Lean Manufacturing provides.

Representatives of CONNSTEP, Inc., Connecticut's leading resource for manufacturing businesses, will conduct the workshop. CONNSTEP operates under the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Manufacturing Extension Partnership program. Workshop leader William J. Caplan, Lean Manufacturing Specialist, is a NIST Certified Trainer, and a results-oriented operations management professional who is highly skilled in change management, continuous improvement techniques, and Lean business practices. He will be joined by Dave Long, Manager of New Business Development.

This interactive workshop is a "must" for architectural woodworkers who want to streamline company operations to realize cost efficiencies and improve profits. Register for the workshop at www.awinet.org. ■



William J. Caplan



Dave Long



2008 AWI Sponsors

Thanks to all of the following 2008 AWI Sponsors whose support helps to fund association programs and services that benefit all AWI members. Support these members; they are supporting you through their 2008 sponsorship commitment. Visit www.awinet.org to contact these suppliers the next time a need arises for their services. ■

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Association News

In Memory of Norman Vaughn

Norman L. Vaughn, a past president of AWI, passed away at the age of 91 in Warwick, Rhode Island, on July 26, 2008.

Mr. Vaughn was the Treasurer of the former L. Vaughn Company in Warwick, RI, for 40 years until his retirement. He was AWI's eighth President (1962-63) and President Emeritus. Mr. Vaughn was one of the primary authors of AWI's first Standards and was later involved with the second and third editions. He was a charter member of AWI as well as a past president of the AWI New England Chapter.

Mr. Vaughn is survived by two daughters and a son, Norman L. "Woody" Vaughn, Jr., of Vaughn Woodwork Consultants (an AWI Supplier Member), in North Attleboro, MA.

Contributions in Mr. Vaughn's memory may be made to the Spring Green Memorial Church or to Cornerstone Adult Services, 140 Warwick Neck Avenue, Warwick, RI 02889. ■



Mixed Sources
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