

News Briefs

Newsletter of the Architectural Woodwork Institute

NEW AWI MEMBERS MANUFACTURING

- Americian Designs, Inc.**
Chicago, IL
- Beam's Custom Woodworking Inc.**
Geigertown, PA
- BKFine**
Indian Hills, CO
- Brian A. Hebert Woodworks, Inc.**
Lafayette, LA
- Emidio Woodworking & Sons, Inc.**
Newington, CT
- Happel & Associates, Inc.**
Golden, CO
- Harbortown – Theracraft**
Savannah, GA
- Heron Millwork Inc.**
El Paso, TX
- Horizon Millwork Manufacturing, Inc.**
Livonia, MI
- JELD-WEN Windows & Doors**
Chiloquin, OR
- Joshtom Millwork**
Houston, TX
- McLaughlin Millworks & Interiors**
Troy, MI
- Reesmar Sales & Millwork**
Hialeah, FL
- S&H Cabinets & Manufacturing, Inc.**
Fontana, CA
- Swan Creek Cabinetry, Inc.**
Boone, IA
- Zavarella Woodworking**
Newington, CT ■

AWILL CATE Week: Making "Quality" an Enduring Reality



Situated within a wooded environment, the Harris Conference Center is minutes from Charlotte-Douglas airport.

When you think about the office side of your business, what could be more important for your reputation and your profitability, as well as assuring continuing business opportunities? Quality! We're referring to more than just quality control. It's the application of the philosophy of quality throughout a project from the beginning to the end that produces quality products.

The AWILL Career & Technology Education Week, February 22-25, 2006 in Charlotte, North Carolina, marks the beginning of an entirely new focus and format for AWI education programs. The event will be held at the Harris Conference Center situated within a contemplative wooded area of the Central Piedmont Community College.

Managing Quality

"Managing Quality: How Do the Masters Do It?" is an interactive session that will explore the methods employed by successful firms to ensure that a consistent level of high quality work goes out the door. Participants will take home a toolbox of tips and techniques to upgrade and maintain standards of excellence. A panel of practicing plant managers from the following prestigious firms will share their methods for success:

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Respiratory Health Study of Wood Workers Completed

The American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) announced the completion of a long-term study into the potential respiratory effects of working in the wood and wood products industries. The study was commissioned by AF&PA and eighteen other wood products trade associations, including AWI, and carried out by the Tulane University Medical Center.

The good news for the industry is that the researchers found no statistically significant adverse effects from wood dust at the facilities participating in the study.

The six-year study followed more than 1,100 employees from ten plants scattered around the country, representing a cross-section of the wood products industry. All the plants and employees participated voluntarily, answering health questionnaires and participating in dust monitoring and lung function testing. While this study was specifically looking at potential effects of exposure to wood dust, the researchers did note pulmonary effects *unrelated to wood dust* at two of the ten facilities, a milling facility and a sawmill-planing-plywood facility. The

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AWI Wisconsin Chapter Meeting Led to Productive Exchange with AWI

A meeting on December 2, 2005 between 11 members of the AWI Board of Directors and members of the AWI Wisconsin Chapter got off to a good start with reports all around that business is good.

The chapter meeting was an information exchange. The give-and-take question and answer session addressed issues ranging from the value of QCP, membership requirements, leadership meeting focus, the AWI Cost of Doing Business Survey, finding good woodworkers, and plant employee training, to the AWI convention, and more.

Questions about help with membership recruitment may have been promoted by the AWI's Chicago Chapter opening its membership to Wisconsin woodworkers. Ed Brewer, a member of the AWI Chapter Development Task Force and AWI President-Elect, advised that the "most important ingredient for



a chapter's success is that it have a 'reason for being'" and that its program speakers have a "reason for being" as well. He said that the Wisconsin Chapter's speakers' bureau will likely contribute to its success.

Jeff Pickarts of Woodmill Products, Inc., of New Berlin, WI hosted the meeting and tour of his plant. ■

AWI Seminar Improved VA Chapter Members' Training Skills

Among the many useful tidbits shared with attendees were the Seven Laws of Learning:

1. The teacher must know what is being taught.
2. The learner must attend with interest to the material being presented.
3. The language must be common to both the teacher and the learner.
4. Truth or content must be learned through truth already known.
5. The process must excite and direct the self activities of the learner.
6. The learner must reproduce in his/her own life the content to be learned.
7. You must confirm the completion of the content being taught.

They came, they engaged in class assignments, they learned, and they graduated. AWI Director of Training and Member Services Greg Heuer and his wife, Linda Gamble Heuer, delivered an interactive "Power Presentations" Seminar on Dec. 8-9, 2005 for 15 AWI Virginia Chapter members.

Attendees explored how to use *AWI Design Pro Presentations* to educate architects, design professionals, and others about the value and use of Quality Standards Illustrated. "By using AWI's pre-packaged presentations on a variety of topics, you can become known as local trusted experts," Heuer said. Sixteen programs are already outlined, illustrated and scripted into Microsoft PowerPoint Presentation files.

The program included a workbook and complimentary copies of AWI's acclaimed *Design Pro Presentations CD-ROM*.

For details about how you can arrange for a similar presentation for your chapter, contact Kimberly Hayes at khayes@awinet.org. ■

Association News

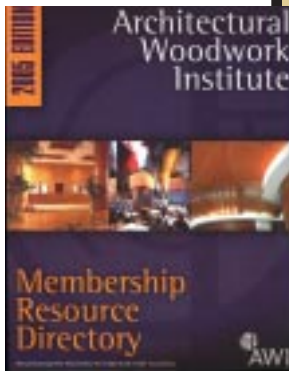
DON'T MISS THESE OPPORTUNITIES

2006 Membership Resource Directory

Development of the annual *Membership Resource Directory* is underway and will only include dues-paid members in good standing on record as of January 31, 2006.

This annual resource is distributed to over 3,000 architectural woodworkers, suppliers, architects and design professionals. The directory is a handy resource, a virtual "Who's Who in Architectural Woodwork," that is consulted

throughout the year. Your member listing in the directory is a must for putting your company name and contact information before thousands of existing customers and potential business partners. Remit your AWI membership dues payment by January 31 and be included! ■



AWI Spring Leadership Conference

Save the date...April 5-8, 2006 when AWI chapter leaders, other AWI business leaders, and AWI's volunteer association leaders come together in Sterling, Virginia, for a dynamic leadership training program. The spring forum is open to all AWI members, particularly those who want to boost their leadership skills for use personally, in business, and in local chapters. Come together with other industry peers and learn from the fascinating plant tours planned at architectural woodwork firms in Maryland and Virginia. Don't miss this opportunity. ■

Dollars and Time for Lifelong Learning

By Greg Heuer, AWI Director, Training & Member Services

Here is some good news about employee training. As your "AWI training guy," I am a member of the American Society for Training and Development (ASTD). Here are some interesting tidbits from the 2005 ASTD State of the Industry year-end report.

Compare what you spend to upgrade the skills of your employees with these national averages.

- The average annual expenditure per employee in ASTD's broadest sample of organizations increased to \$955 per employee in 2004, after two previous years of remaining steady at about \$820.
- The average number of hours of formal learning per employee increased in 2004, from 26 hours per employee in 2003 to 32 hours per employee in 2004.
- In 2004, the average cost per learning hour provided was \$642 per hour representing a one-year increase from \$595.

At \$159 per person per day, the AWILL Winter Career and Technology Education (CATE) sessions in February are a world class bargain of less than \$30 cost per learning hour provided.

Consult your December *NewsBriefs* mail pack for full details and a registration form for AWI Winter CATE, February 22-25, 2006 or visit <http://homepage.mac.com/gheuer212/AWILL/education9.html>. ■

AWILL CATE Week:... (continued from page 1)

Charleston Woodworks, Inc., Charleston, SC
Hollywood Woodwork, Inc., Hollywood, FL
Stephenson Millwork Company, Inc., Wilson, NC

Estimating & Project Management

Two previously stand-alone seminars on the Fundamentals of Estimating and Fundamentals of Project Management are being incorporated into CATE Week. They offer extraordinary value for the price of the program which AWI is able to discount because of the venue and concentration of programs within one facility. The basic programs are being offered in addition to the traditional Advanced Project Management and Advanced Estimating sessions and promise good value for those who want to stay focused and combine several professional learning experiences on one trip. Completion of the "Fundamentals" course(s), or three years experience as a Project Manager or Estimator, is the prerequisite for registration for the "Advanced" course(s).

Other Business Sessions

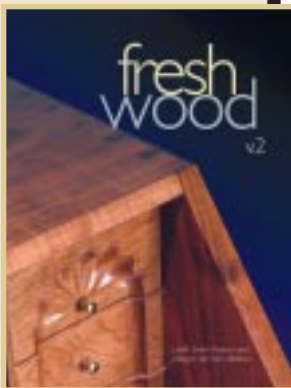
CATE Week also features sessions on Contracts, the Quality Certification Program, Plant Scheduling, and offers software demonstrations for more efficient project management and estimating. The Harris Computer Laboratory allows for hands-on demos for attendees to try out the various software packages.

Early-Bird Registration

Discounted early-bird fees of only \$159 per person per day for AWI members and \$280 per person per day for prospective members, are available through January 27, 2006. Registration fees rise after January 27 to \$245 per person per day for members and \$435 per person per day for non-members. Sign up now. Download your registration form at <http://homepage.mac.com/gheuer212/AWILL/FileSharing12.html>, visit www.awinet.org/events/seminarsr.html, or call Kimberly Hayes at 434.975.0191. ■

Fresh Wood Volume 2 Makes Great Gift

Enjoy the creative designs and intricate craftsmanship that inspired thousands at this year's AWFS®Fair. *Fresh Wood Volume 2* is a stunning book featuring the 58 award-winning furniture projects from high school and college students at the AWFS®Fair 2005 Student Design Contest.



A beautiful hard-cover photographic art book, *Fresh Wood Volume 2*, features over 240 photos revealing intricate joinery, hidden details and eloquent figures in wood. The book includes comments by students that provide insight on the design challenges and innovative techniques, while the serene beauty of the Las Vegas desert provides a stunning backdrop for the new designs.

To order the \$45.00 art book on-line, visit www.freshwood2005.com. *Fresh Wood* makes a handsome gift that shows your commitment to the future of the woodworking and furniture industries. For orders of 10 or more, you can customize the cover with your company logo.

Check into quantity orders, customization and more details at <http://www.mitrapublishing.com/coprgifts.html>. ■

Respiratory Health Study... (continued from page 1)

study authors suggest the results from the milling facility may be due to a masked smoking effect – that is participants underreporting their smoking habits. The results from the lone sawmill-planing-plywood facility are harder to explain, but do not stem from exposure to wood dust. The researchers have proposed additional study of non-wood dust factors, and the facility's owners have begun an independent study.

AF&PA and its member companies continue to analyze the findings from this study and will share results with standard setting organizations. AF&PA is the national trade association of the forest, paper and wood products industry. AF&PA represents more than 200 companies and related associations that engage in or represent the manufacture of pulp, paper, paperboard and wood products. Visit AF&PA on-line at www.afandpa.org. ■

About QCP



QCP: CHANGE IS AFOOT

The Quality Certification Program has exciting changes underway aimed at further strengthening the program.

Supplier Certification Confirmed

Following a re-evaluation of program policies, the QCP Board of Review has confirmed that certification is open to all supplier firms who (1) operate their own plant, (2) fabricate work in sections 300-1700, and (3) meet all requirements of the program. The QCP application fee for suppliers, AWI member or non-member, is \$2,800.

QCP Renewal Deadline Jan. 30, 2006

QCP will accept 2006 renewal payments until January 30, 2006. According to program policies, however, all renewals paid after December 31, 2005 are subject to a \$300 late fee and payments received after January 30, 2006 may result in revocation from the program. If you have already paid your QCP renewal fee, we thank you for your support of the industry and QCP!

Questions about the QCP can be directed to Kara Thorp at kthorp@awinet.org. ■

AWI Welcomes 2006 Corporate Sponsors



AWI is pleased to introduce the 2006 Corporate Sponsors whose support helps fund programs and services that benefit all AWI members. We are grateful for their commitment to AWI. We encourage all AWI members to support these 2006 Corporate Sponsors whenever a need arises for their services. Full details about the 2006 Sponsorship Opportunities are available at www.awinet.org or by contacting Cheryl Stratos or Victoria Geis at 703.212.7737. Find out how your company can benefit from the extensive business exposure that sponsors receive in a variety of media. ■

Sustaining Sponsor:

stiles

Major Sponsors:



Level 2 Sponsor:



Level 4 Sponsor:

