

News Briefs

Newsletter of the Architectural Woodwork Institute

NEW AWI MEMBERS MANUFACTURING

- A & K Millwork, LP**
Winnipeg, MB, Canada
- Accucraft Millworks**
Austin, TX
- Architectural Millwork & Cabinetry, LLC**
Gulf Breeze, FL
- Best Cabinets & Millwork**
Chicago, IL
- Central Custom Millwork, Inc.**
Irving, TX
- Custom Millwork, Inc.**
dba Mardel Pro. Company
Mansura, LA
- Details Carpentry & Millwork, Inc.**
Atlanta, GA
- Jarrett Millwork, Inc.**
Mount Vernon, NY
- Platform Furniture and Fabrication**
Brooklyn, NY
- Thornwood Furniture Manufacturing**
Phoenix, AZ
- Urban WoodWorks, Ltd.**
Woodhaven, NY
- WDJ Construction**
Norwich, CT
- West End Industries, Inc.**
Black Mountain, NC

SUPPLIERS

- American Laminates, Inc.**
Riverbank, CA
- Lenga Patagonia S.A.**
Rio Grande, Argentina
- Vinterio NA**
Darlington, PA ■

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A Historic Year Sets Course for New Directions



Con October 1, 2007 AWI began a new fiscal year invigorated by 12 months of profound changes under the leadership of Immediate Past AWI President Ed Brewer. Three developments, in particular, will lead AWI in new directions that have far-reaching implications for the entire architectural woodwork industry.

The climate for change, however, began in another era when AWI Past President Rick Kogler took office in October 2005. The AWI Board of Directors began a sensitive exploration of the *Architectural Woodwork Quality Standards Illustrated*, the Quality Certification Program, and the need for a workforce for future generations of architectural woodwork manufacturers.

In the spring of 2007, the AWI Board of Directors saw their drive for change and two years of work come to fruition.

Dynamic Changes

First — the Quality Certification Program (QCP) founded by AWI in 1996 was spun off as a separate business unit of AWI to be independently administered and promoted by the Quality Certification Corporation. In a historic move, the QCC Board of Directors elected an architect as its first president – William A. Munyan, AIA, CST, CDI of Freeman White Architects, Inc. – marking the first time either AWI or the new corporation has been led by a design professional from among the “customer” segment of architectural woodworkers.



A Historic Year

Second — AWI was recognized by the USDA Forest Service with a \$92,000 grant for development of skill standards. The project is aimed at meeting the need for skilled woodworkers in an increasingly competitive global market. As Secretariat, AWI organized the multi-year project under a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, the Woodwork Career Alliance of North America. Now fully operational, the WCA is beginning the daunting task of writing the skill standards.

Third — AWI, the Architectural Woodwork Manufacturers Association of Canada (AWMAC) and the Woodwork Institute (WI) recently signed a historic operating agreement to develop a single architectural woodwork standard that will be developed by a Joint Standards Committee. “This agreement will help produce one woodwork standard for

Strength in Numbers!

- **AWI Manufacturing Members – 1,098**
 - **AWI Supplier Members – 248**
 - **AWI Affiliate Members – 1,688**
- design professionals
& educators – 1,340
students – 348**

As of September 30, 2007

(cont. on page 2)



A Historic Year Sets Course ...*(cont. from page 1)*

the industry, eliminating the confusion of multiple standards, which will benefit manufacturers, suppliers, and the design community,” said then AWI President Ed Brewer in announcing the agreement.

Organizational Changes

These three developments were made possible because of AWI’s blueprint that outlines the association’s five preferred futures for six years. (See “55th AWI President Begins Carving the Future,” page 1, *AWI NewsBriefs*, November 2006.)

At this time last year AWI had just appointed a new Executive Vice President, Philip Duvic, to the helm of AWI as successor to Judy Durham, AWI veteran of 21 years. Phil has brought his experience as AWI Director of Marketing & Communications and his service as a Past President of AWI (1998-1999) to his new role.

AWI: Life of Discovery – Legacy of Change



Richard A. Ungerbuehler, Sr.

Since its founding in 1947, the Architectural Woodwork Institute has been the source of “life” for many of our smaller member firms. The association has been instrumental in providing the major source of “discovery” for technical information, product knowledge and manufacturing techniques. AWI’s “legacy” as the “Authoritative Resource for Excellence in Architectural Woodwork” dictates that as changes in the marketplace, environmental issues, and government regulations are recognized, we must adjust to the changing times and keep our

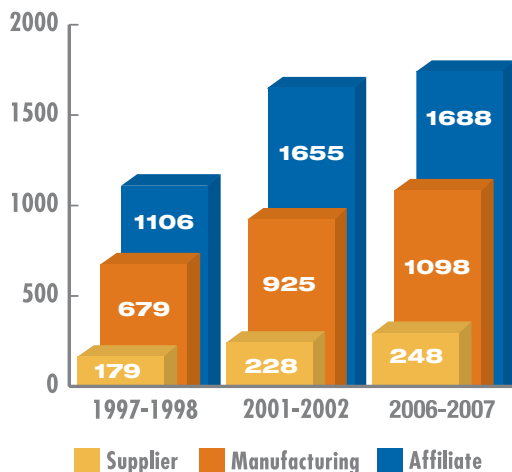
members abreast of the latest advances in technology, new materials and outside influences. These thoughts support our theme for the next 12 months — “Life of Discovery — Legacy of Change.”

By “Looking Back — Moving Forward” we will draw from the wealth of talent found collectively in Past AWI Presidents whose wisdom and experience we need to tap more often as a positive force for the continued progress of AWI.

As your 2007-2008 AWI President, I believe that we need to constantly monitor programs and committees for relevance and make our strategic plan a living document through continued development. Your Board of Directors will be working to tighten the governance of AWI programs and services, while gaining feedback from our Development Council, AWI’s link to chapters and members-at-large, about possible new programs and services that will help architectural woodwork member firms flourish.

(cont. on page 4)

AWI MEMBERSHIP GROWTH



Membership Growth

In the midst of all the changes, AWI members appear content with change and stimulated by the exciting new directions. Industry support has never been stronger. Manufacturing and Supplier Membership is at an all-time high. In 10 years Manufacturing Membership has increased 62%.

Future Course

As 2007-2008 AWI President Richard Ungerbuehler, Sr. has said, the Board of Directors will keep AWI on course, carefully watching industry trends, testing members’ needs, and managing the association’s Preferred Futures to assure that the future is as successful as the past. ■



The 2007-2008 AWI Board of Directors – from left to right: (front row) Stephan Waltman, Stiles Machinery, Inc.; Patrick Nartker (AWI Treasurer), Ted Bolle Millwork, Inc.; Whitney Coombs, (AWI President-Elect), Ivan C. Dutterer, Inc.; Richard A. Ungerbuehler, Sr. (AWI President), Federal Millwork Corporation; Doug Carney (AWI Vice President), R&S Casework; Rick Kogler, Strategic Development; (back row) John “Ned” Kreider, Kreider Brothers, Inc.; Robert Stout, RLS Commercial Interiors, Inc.; Joe Sorrelli (Past President Delegate) Al Joe Woodwork Consultants; Teresa Bell, Kentucky Millwork; and Jay Hollinsworth, Woodmill Products, Inc.

New AWI Web Site – Strong, Vibrant and User Friendly



The next time you visit www.awinet.org you'll see a more vibrant and dynamic AWI Web site. AWI's new online presence not only reflects the exuberance of the architectural woodwork industry but also features enhanced functionality and user friendliness that comes with a state-of-the-art product.

AWI members can now update their membership records and renew their membership dues online. The site's streamlined administrative functions bring membership administration into the 21st century. The new system also allows members to control their online corporate identity within the AWI member community and the vast design-build industry.

Why is this so important? Record changes will now immediately impact member listings in the online Membership Directory. The online resource will continue to serve as an avenue for architects, design professionals and contractors to locate architectural woodworkers as well as product suppliers for their next project. The new record-keeping feature that allows AWI Manufacturing and Supplier Members to update their contact and company profile 24/7, 365 days a year, enables you to put your best foot forward for vital online business exposure.

And, if you've forgotten the scope of the membership benefits you receive for your dues dollar, take a cruise through the "Membership Benefits" section. While you're at it, encourage nonmembers to visit the site and apply for AWI membership. Show off the new AWI Web site and help AWI grow its community of members.

See you at www.awinet.org. All members will receive a new password to enter the "Members Only" section for benefits that are exclusive to dues-paying members. Explore every section of the new AWI Web site – get reacquainted with all that AWI offers. ■

AWI Contributes \$20K to WoodLINKS

AWI's long-standing support of WoodLINKS has increased to \$20,000 this year – doubling the amount of AWI's contribution in support of the organization's career development efforts. WoodLINKS works together with high schools and technical schools to deliver a wood manufacturing education program that meets the skilled worker needs. The program is aimed at proving the wood industry with the necessary skilled workers to remain competitive at the entry and middle management levels.



The association's partnership with WoodLINKS will help it secure a matching grant of \$25,000 offered to it recently by the Woodwork Machinery Industry Association (WMIA). Contact Mark Smith at woodlinksusa@netcare-il.com, if you wish to contribute to this worthy program.

Also during the convention in Louisville, Steve Waltman, Vice President Sales and Marketing for Stiles Machinery, announced that the tuition for Stiles Education courses would be waived for all secondary school teachers and encouraged the attendees to relay this message to the high schools in their area.

AWI's education programs include support for its own Adopt-A-Shop program as well as WoodLINKS, both of which are aimed at fostering careers in the woodworking profession. ■



AWI President (2007-2008) Richard Ungerbuehler, Sr. (center) presents a big check from AWI to WoodLINKS for \$20,000. (Left) is AWI President (2006-2007) Ed Brewer. Mark Smith of WoodLINKS acknowledges the contribution.

SAFETY TIP CHALLENGE



Seeking safety tips from AWI Manufacturing Members...each quarter, the AWI Safety Committee will review and select the best submittals to date.

Each submittal remains in the competition for the entire year, so all entries have an equal opportunity for review each quarter. (Quarterly winners are excluded from future consideration). The AWI Insurance and Safety Committee reviews and judges all entries and selects the winners; all judging decisions are final.

Each winner receives a beautiful Starrett Model S909Z combination square valued at almost \$300, compliments of the AWI Insurance and Safety Committee and our partner in risk management, CNA Insurance.

To submit your tip, log on to the AWI Web site at www.awinet.org and choose AWI "Members Only." Click on the "Safety" link and enter the Safety Tip Challenge. ■



2007 AWI Sponsors

AWI thanks all 2007 sponsors whose support helps to fund association programs and services that benefit all AWI members. Visit www.awinet.org to contact these suppliers the next time a need arises for their services. ■

Sustaining Sponsor:



Major Sponsors:



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Level 3 Sponsors:



Level 4 Sponsors:



In The Chapters

AWI Chapter Events Coming Up

AWI Great Lakes Chapter

When: November 8, 2007

What: Seminars: QS 8005 Veneer Solutions; QS 8006 Finishing; Woodworking Contributions to "Green" Building Projects

Where: Grand Rapids, MI

Information: www.midwestwoodexpo.com

AWI Central Pennsylvania Chapter

When: November 15, 2007

What: Lean Manufacturing Program; Tabletop exhibits featuring Supplier Members

Where: Harrisburg, PA

Information: Chapter President Garry Astles at gastles@northwayind.com

A full list of upcoming events can be found in each issue of *AWI e-briefs*, AWI's bimonthly e-letter for members. ■

AWI Life of Discovery – Legacy of Change ... (cont. from page 2)

The board will work steadfastly to: 1) unify the industry; 2) promote our membership; 3) communicate our message to the membership and design community; and 4) influence the buying public. I am confident that your 2007-2008 Board of Directors will be remembered for:

- Integrity...doing what is right for the good of our membership
- Compassion...remembering who we are and who we represent
- Courage...to make the hard choices which will best serve our membership
- Sacrifice...taking precious time away from family and business to help build upon 53 years of making the Architectural Woodwork Institute what it is today.

Our goal is to build upon a legacy that strengthens AWI as the "Authoritative Resource for Excellence in Architectural Woodwork." ■

Richard A. Ungerbuehler, Sr. • AWI President (2007-2008) • Federal Millwork Corporation