

NewsBriefs

Newsletter of the Architectural Woodwork Institute

NEW AWI MEMBERS

MANUFACTURING

- Ardako Wood Products, Inc.**
Colorado Springs, CO
- Barrington Millwork, LLC**
Barrington, IL
- Classics in Wood, Inc.**
Grafton, WI
- Crowe's Cabinets, Inc.**
Lowellville, OH
- de Vries Fine Woodworking, Inc.**
Calgary, AB, Canada
- House of Doors**
Alexandria, VA
- Joshua Projects**
McAllen, TX
- River Valley Manufacturing**
Ellsworth, WI
- Robert S. Sponcil Company Inc.**
Zionsville, IN
- Select Euro Systems**
Hayden Lake, ID
- University of Virginia**
Charlottesville, VA
- US Millwork Inc.**
Louisville, KY

SUPPLIERS

- Arkansas Face Veneer Company, Inc.**
Benton, AR
- Gemini Coatings, Inc.**
El Reno, OK
- Mohawk Finishing Products**
Hickory, NC
- People Logic Software Corporation**
Victoria, BC, Canada
- Renaissance Specialty Veneer Products, Inc.**
Columbus, IN
- Rosenburg Forest Products Company**
Dillard, OR ■

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AWILL Career & Technology Education Week Sets Up Shop June 20-24, 2006



Penn College of Technology campus

If you want your shop specialists to improve their skills, if you wish to increase delivery speed to your clients, and above all, if you are interested in learning new techniques to improve your bottom line, plan to attend the next AWI Career & Technology Education Week, June 20-24, 2006 in Williamsport, PA.

Seventeen sessions conducted by AWI faculty and other authorities will take place at the Penn College of Technology campus and at Hermance Machine. Penn College is an easy drive from the northeast and the mid-Atlantic region. Modestly-priced hotel accommodations are available at nearby hotels.

What's Offered?

Practical workshops are being offered for you and your plant personnel – from finishing, AutoCAD, abrasives, and adhesives, to Fundamentals and Advanced Project Management and Estimating sessions. Laboratories on polyester coatings, color matching and UV, and clinics conducted on the Weinig Moulder and SCM

(continued on page 2)

AWI Revamps & Updates Web Site

Check out www.awinet.org. You'll find many changes – more information and more resources for maximizing the return on your AWI membership investment.

Stay connected to the AWI community through www.awinet.org. Under “News & Announcements” you'll gain access to AWI's News Center where you can find the latest edition of AWI's monthly newsletter, *NewsBriefs*, as well as news about AWI National, chapters, members and the industry. Plus, calendars are updated for AWI meetings and events in addition to AWI chapter activities. The AWI seminar section has also been revamped to keep members better informed about AWI Lifelong Learning opportunities. All the other standard features are still on the web site, but updated and improved.

Because the new web site allows AWI staff to more easily manage information postings, AWI is better positioned to post significant news about member companies, chapter events and industry news. Send your announcements and news to AWI Director of Marketing and Communications Phil Duvic at pduvic@awinet.org.

Open 24/7 to serve your information needs, www.awinet.org is ready for frequent visits by all members. Stop by sometime. ■



In the Field... Member Company News

Stiles Machinery (AWI Supplier Member since 1996) and its dealer partner, Panel/Wood Machinery, of Pennsauken, NJ, will be hosting their Spring Machinery Expo May 3-5, 2006 at the Panel/Wood Facility. This three-day event will showcase equipment supplied by Stiles Machinery, Holzma U.S., Altendorf America, and Belfab. During the Expo, a veneering seminar will be conducted by Stiles Machinery Veneering Product Manager Marty Jones. For additional information or to register, contact Ron Coe at Panel/Wood Machinery at 856.317.9030, or contact Bill Pitt, VP, Holzma U.S., a Division of Stiles Machinery at 704.861.8239 or bpitt@stilesmachinery.com.



Steve Thomas

Woodmeister Master Builders

(AWI Manufacturing Member since 1999), a Massachusetts-based company providing fine residential construction, custom cabinetry and interiors, and lifestyle management services to the luxury residential market, announced that industry expert Steve Thomas, has joined the company as Vice President, Client Development. Thomas became a household name to millions of television viewers as host of the Emmy Award winning PBS series *This Old House* (1989 to 2002) and as host and producer of the History Channel Series *Save Our History* (2002 to present).

The custom woodwork and design firm **World of Wood, Ltd.** (AWI Manufacturing Member since 2002), has announced the addition of a detailer/drafter to its in-house design group at its headquarters in Oconomowoc, WI. Christine Ulness will focus on shop drawings, CAD drafting and other projects requiring expertise in residential design. Founded in 1975, the family-owned business maintains a showroom with corporate offices in downtown Oconomowoc and a nearby 16,000 square-foot production facility.

Veneer Technologies (AWI Supplier Member since 1997) of Newport, NC, has made a cash grant through the Hardwood Forestry Fund of the North Carolina Division of Forest Resources to support a hardwood reforestation demonstration project in the North Carolina Piedmont region. The objective of the project is to plant commercially valuable species of hardwoods for forestry demonstration purposes and future timber production. For more information, visit www.veneertech.com. ■

Association News

AWILL Career & Technology... (continued from page 1)



Moulder are tailored for hands-on learning. Plus, project management and estimating software vendors will be on-site in their own classrooms to offer solutions for these vital aspects of daily operations.

The "Secret Life of Trees" hands-on lab and field trip will reveal how wood gets its appearance and its grain, and why some wood machines differently and dries differently. The summer AWILL sessions will also feature an AWI Quality Standards and Quality Certification Seminar.

Plant Tours will offer the highest level of insights into a variety of successful operations. Visit Lewis Lumber, Bentley and Collins, Wheeland Sawmill and Lumber, WoodMode, Northway Industries, and/or Mohawk Wood Doors. Tours are included in each day's tuition at no extra charge. (Tours are not available separately.)

Machinery and equipment will be featured at the Hermance Plant – visit <http://www.hermance.com/> for a taste of what's to come. Other valued AWI suppliers will have their wares on display.

Registration

For some sessions space is extremely limited to allow for hands-on practice. All sessions, even the largest at 60 seats, are purposely designed to create an interactive environment for participants.

Tuition varies depending on your course selection. For full details about the sessions and faculty, see the enclosed Summer Career & Technology Education Week brochure or visit <http://homepage.mac.com/gheuer212/summer>, which will always have the latest information. The registration form contains pricing information. Sign up early to assure you have a seat. This AWILL summer program is a must-attend event! ■

Accolades for First Career & Technology Education Week

AWI's highly successful Winter Career & Technology Education Week, February 22-25 in Charlotte, NC, attracted 119 attendees. Many companies sent multiple representatives ranging from two to as many as eight. Participants were treated to eleven programs, including the popular Project Management and Estimating – both Fundamentals and Advanced courses – as well as a number of business management sessions.

The software demonstration sessions attracted considerable interest. "I was especially pleased with the software shootouts...Quite a good overview of the options available to us," said Whitney Coombs of Ivan C. Dutterer, Inc. "I suggest that any member...who wants to send people to the summer CATE, sign up early, as we will probably buy out the event," he said.

Look for details about AWILL's Summer Career & Technology Education Week on page one of this issue of *AWI NewsBriefs*. The summer forum will focus on the shop side of architectural woodwork operations. Don't miss it. ■



AWI Advanced Estimating Seminar Class



Instructor works with attendees at AWI Advanced Project Management Seminar.

Joint Efforts Provide BIG Return for AWI Chapters

AWI Chapters have gained big returns in partnering with sister associations. By joining forces on program development each partnership has produced a win-win reward.

Texas Chapter

The Texas AWI Chapter found a winning formula when they joined the Dallas CSI Chapter to bring eight hours of education on architectural woodwork to over 50 architects. Even after eight hours of education the attendees still had questions!

Following the success of this event, the Texas Chapter leaders decided to make Quality Standards workshops a priority for the chapter in 2006. The first education event was held in Grape Vine, TX and attracted 30 architects.

The next Texas AWI Chapter event is slated for June 2, 2006 in Houston, TX and will include presentations on LEED and AWI's Quality Certification Program. Presenters are AWILL Ambassador Rob Ziegelmeier of Ideal Architectural Doors & Plywood and AWI Director of Certification Randy Estabrook. For more information, please contact David Pena of WoodArts Systems, Inc. at David@woodartssystems.com.

Chicago Chapter

The Chicago AWI Chapter has also found success partnering with the Chicago Chapter CSI. Their combined program brought together 111 CSI and AWI members. CSI members received a free copy of the *Quality Standards* and one AIA Learning Unit Credit. Debby Heidler, Chicago Chapter Coordinator, presented the program.



A design professional visitor (left) at the Central PA Chapter booth talks with chapter members (next to left) Ned Kreider of Kreider Brothers, (middle) Garry Astles of Northway Industries, and (right) Dan Killoran of Lewis Lumber.

Central Pennsylvania Chapter

Another collaborative effort paid off between the Central PA AWI Chapter and the local CSI chapter. The AWI chapter sponsored a booth at the local CSI exhibition on March 15. That evening the AWI chapter hosted a Second Annual AIA/AWI Central Pennsylvania meeting and presentation that attracted 70 architects. Attendees benefited from a presentation about QSI Section 400 delivered by AWI Affiliate Member Bill Geyer, Assistant Professor for Construction/Design Technology at Penn College of Technology. The program provided one AIA Learning Unit Credit to the architects who attended.

The groups are planning to conduct these events annually.

Success breeds success. Find out how to instill success into your next program. Check out AWI's resources by contacting AWI Director of Membership and Chapter Development Teresa McCain at 571.323.3622 or at tmccain@awinet.org. ■

Early Return to Work – *the Win-Win Provision*

By: Teresa Bell, Kentucky Mill and Casework *

Everyone benefits when an employee returns to work as soon as possible after injury. Research has found that employees who return to duty, even if it is temporary light-duty, recover faster, reduce the chance of long-term disability, experience less stress due to loss of income, and experience a boost in morale.

Benefits for the employer include higher worker productivity, lower experience rating (and consequently lower workers' compensation premiums), and a reduced incidence of legal claims.

There are three elements to a successful Early Return to Work program:

- Management Commitment – Top management should fully support the program.
- Preparation – Identify and involve key players, set goals and policies, and have appropriate forms in place.
- Training/Communication – All parties, management, supervisors, and employees, need to understand the value of the program and how it works. Policies and procedures should be communicated throughout the organization. Communication should be maintained with injured workers throughout the recovery process.

The steps needed to implement an Early Return to Work program are simple: develop clear goals and policies, designate a program coordinator, identify transitional duties, develop standard forms, provide training, and maintain communication.

There are abundant resources to help in each of these steps. Both state-run and privately-run worker compensation programs provide materials and counsel to aid in the set up of your program. ■

**Ms. Bell is a member of the AWI Safety Insurance Loss/Control Committee. The information contained in this article is for information purposes and should not be considered legal advice. The information and suggestions contained in this article have been developed from sources believed to be reliable. However, AWI accepts no legal responsibility for the correctness or completeness of the material or its application to specific factual situations.*

2006 AWI Sponsors

AWI members welcome and thank Sherwin-Williams as a new sponsor, and extend sincere appreciation to all these 2006 Sponsors for their support. Contributions from the 2006 AWI Sponsors help fund programs and services that benefit all AWI members. We encourage all AWI members to support these 2006 Sponsors whenever a need arises for their services. ■



Sustaining Sponsor:
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Major Sponsors:



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Level 4 Sponsors:



About QCP

New QCP Web Site Launched!

The new Quality Certification Program (QCP) web site, www.awiqcp.org, is up and running! The new site provides applicants and currently certified firms with easy access to a variety of program resources, including the ability to apply for and renew certification, take the certification test, and register projects and order labels entirely online. Because the site is specific to the QCP program, users will find detailed information on program policies and procedures. Visitors can also search for currently certified firms and completed QCP projects. The updated QCP web site may also be reached via www.awinet.org. Click on "AWI Quality Certification." Questions and comments about the web site may be directed to kthorp@awinet.org. ■

