Tech Meeting: Awards Night and Old-Timer’s
Thursday, May 12, 2016
“Structural Steel Fabrication Challenges”
Casadei Steel
40675 Mound Road Sterling Heights, MI 48310
586.698-2898

AGENDA
5:30-6:00pm – Welcome and Networking
6:00-7:00pm – Dinner– Awards – Presentation
7:00-8:00pm – Facility Tour

Please RSVP by Monday, May 9, 2016 to John
Sutter – johnsutter@comcast.net

Bruno Casadei will discuss the experience he has in the
structural steel fabrication industry and some of the challenges
faced today by people doing steel construction.

Who: Bruno Casadei – 46 years of experience started Casadei Steel in 2001 with
Robert Casadei – they now employ over 80 employees between their office and field
staff. Casadei is one of Michigan’s fastest growing Structural Steel fabricators and erectors.
May 2016
This Issue of the Bulletin can be viewed on the web at awsdetroit.org

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First Vice Chair
TYLER ALEXANDER
Second Vice Chair
TBD
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Wesley Doneth
Chairman’s Message

Well, the year flew by, just as I expected it would. May is a busy month as we wrap things up and transition to another Chairman. I want to congratulate Tyler and know he will do a great job. I would also like to thank all the Executive Committee members who offered so much support over the last 10-12 months and made this look easy. I have had the opportunity to be involved with so many great things from our Golf Outing last year to Ladies’ Night that just occurred, to our Annual High School Welding Competition. One of my most memorable was meeting with Samantha Farr, the founder of Women Who Weld in Detroit. I have spent most of my career in and around welding but never met someone so dedicated to helping people make a difference in their lives by enabling them to get access to training in a skill that can provide meaningful work and earn a living. I know I have made the suggestion before but please take a minute and think about the tasks you do every day. Do you know a young person who may benefit learning about the industry you work in? Can you donate some of your time to encourage them and help them grow? I recently had a discussion with an educator at a community college who I have known for many years. I expressed my concerns about companies complaining about not finding any qualified candidates for the jobs they have. I told him my immediate response is, “Well, have you invested the time trying to develop them?” I believe AWS’ greatest strength is our commitment to educating and encouraging the next generation of skilled trades, engineers and welding professionals.

Have a great summer!
Wes

Coming Events
To view more events, please visit the awsdetroit.org website, EVENTS page.

ALAC 2016 (Advanced Laser Applications Conference & Exposition),
www.gamcinc.org
May 9-10, 2016
Sheraton Detroit Novi Hotel
Contact Details: Dr. M. Nasim Uddin, Phone: 734-997-9249,
nasimu@gamcinc.org

Great Designs in Steel
May 11, 2016; Livonia, MI

Smart Manufacturing Series
The Digital Transformation
May 25, 2016; NextEnergy
Detroit, MI 48202

Additive Manufacturing & 3D Printing: Transition to Production
June 1 – tutorial
June 2nd Conference
NextEnergy
Detroit, MI 48202

ALAW 2016 (Advanced Laser Applications Workshop)
http://alaw.fmanet.org/
June 6-8, 2016
The Inn at St. John’s, Plymouth, MI

Welding Inspection & Quality Control
July 11-14, 2016
ASM Headquarters, Novelty, OH
I visited Addison Iron Fabricator’s on April 13, 2016 to see the latest Women Who Weld class in progress. Samantha and Ralph had 7 students who were there to complete the 3 week class. The class is intended to be an introduction to welding and fabrication so that the ladies who attend can gain some fundamental skills that would open the door to employment or further education. The AWS Detroit Section donated many items on short notice such as helmets, jackets, gloves and other essential tools. Tom Viggiano, from Roy Smith Company assisted with the supplies along with Steve Smith from Weld-Aid. A Metro Detroit company was planning a visit to the class later the same day to discuss some employment opportunities for manual welding. I have to say the students, Samantha Farr and Ralph Taylor left a lasting impression on me that the real work at AWS takes place at the grass roots level engaging people trying to make a difference in their lives.

If you would like more information about how you can support this program please contact me directly – doneth.wesley@fronius.com or 810-844-2800.
The most reliable, easy-to-use Gun Changer. Ever.

A more reliable fail-safe.
A patented “springless” mechanical fail-safe is guaranteed to work, even with loss of air pressure.

A more reliable locking mechanism.
7,000 pounds of locking force guarantees that signals pass flawlessly, even with heavy accelerations and payloads.

A more flexible utility solution.
Widest choice of modules (power, fluid/oil, signal, and more) with common mounting features for greater flexibility.

With patented advances in the locking mechanism and fail-safe, and new flexible module mounting and integrated robot mounting patterns, we’ve created the most reliable, easy-to-use Welding Gun Changers. Ever.

The QC-210 Welding Gun Changer. The new standard from ATI.

Introducing the Next Generation of Ultralight Power Supplies

RoMan Manufacturing’s Ultralight Power Supplies have thermoswitch protection, a secondary pick-up coil and are fully encapsulated to ensure long life.

TDC-7367
- Weight: 15.5 Kilograms (33 lbs)
- 600 Volt, 1200 Hz
- 90 KVA @ 50% duty cycle
- Secondary no load DC voltage of 10.3 Volts
- Water-cooled, 75 LPM minimum
- @ 30°C maximum inlet temperature

TDC-7220
- Weight: 15 Kilograms (33 lbs)
- 600 Volt, 1000 Hz
- 85 KVA @ 50% duty cycle
- Secondary no load DC voltage of 10.6 Volts
- Water-cooled, 6 LPM minimum
- @ 30°C maximum inlet temperature

Reduce Cycle Times
With Upper Electrode Feeding

With Dengensha’s Upper Electrode Weld Nut Feeding, reduced weld cycle times and faster feed rates are just the beginning. A patented new linkage design with fewer moving parts provides performance that is more reliable. Only one feed action is now required to deliver and place the nut. Plus, you can take advantage of deep-draw and channel welding. There are numerous other features & benefits:

Call: 440-439-8081  •  Ask for Steve Andressy  •  web: dengensha.com

861 47th Street SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49509
616-530-8641  |  www.romanmfg.com

Engineering Resistance Welding Value
May Hotline

Promotions!

Dr. Mark Gugel, who is a member of the AWS Detroit Section Executive Committee, was recently promoted at General Motors to the position Subject Matter Expert – Welding / Joining. In his new position Mark has responsibility in managing GM Global Welding and Joining Standards. Congratulations, Mark!

Acquisitions and Additions!

Dengensha America Adds New Technical Service Engineer

Bedford, Ohio... Dengensha America recently added Jack Zhang as Technical Service Engineer. Zhang will have responsibility for providing customer service and support assistance for new and existing resistance welding customers in the United States and Canada. He will also troubleshoot new product applications.

Jack Zhang comes to Dengensha with a background in process engineering and research. He has both a B.S. in Electrical Engineering and a B.S. in Systems Science and Engineering from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. Along with English, Zhang speaks fluent Mandarin Chinese and has language skills in Japanese. He is married and currently resides in Parma, Ohio.

According to Donald Grisez, Dengensha President, “With our growing customer base in the United States and Canada, and an array of recently introduced new products and breakthrough technology, Zhang is a needed and necessary addition to our customer service support staff.”

Dengensha America Corporation offers automotive, agricultural and general manufacturers the most complete line of resistance welding equipment in the world. Dengensha America’s resistance welding product line includes projection and spot welders; weld guns, feeders and controls with consumables, and spare parts. Training and field service complete a single source capability.

For more information about Jack Zhang’s new position as Technical Service Engineer for Dengensha America customers in the United States and Canada, contact Maiko Robison at Dengensha America/ 7647 First Place Drive, Bedford, Ohio 44146/ Phone: 1-440-439-8081/ Fax: 1-440-439-8217/ Email: mrobison@dengensha.com/ Or visit us: www.dengensha.com

Wanfeng Technology acquires Paslin

WARREN, MI (March 23, 2016) – Wanfeng Technology, a robotic manufacturer and system integrator headquartered in Xinchang China serving the die cast automation market, announced today that it has acquired Paslin, a privately held system integration business headquartered in Warren, Michigan.

New Products, Processes!

New Matuschek SPATZ+ MFDC Resistance Welding Control

The new Matuschek 1,000 Hz MFDC SPATZ+ is a modular resistance welding power supply and timer that can be configured for different purposes. It can be used as a single weld gun controller, a multi-gun controller, a servo gun controller, a master/slave high current controller for aluminum; all by just changing or adding plug-in circuit boards. And it features all of the proven Matuschek MFDC programming capabilities including constant current control (CCC), constant power control (CPC), constant voltage control (CVC), constant trigger angle control (CTC) and the successful MASTER adaptive control.

In combination with an appropriate external MFDC transformer, the SPATZ+ is a cost efficient power supply with a weld current range up to 60 kA. The units are air cooled and can have up to 1024 weld schedules. The SPATZ+ weld controller provides extended data recording, online quality monitoring possibilities, and a USB interface. Extension cards with different field buses are available for connecting to a robot controller or a line PLC. Tip dresser management, ELK test and NUGGETIndex are all available with the SPATZ+.

Fronius Presents

A New Generation of the TransPocket Stick (SMAW) Welding Machine

More Practical and Energy-Efficient Than Ever Before With TransPocket 150 and TransPocket 180, Welding Technology specialists Fronius are now launching a new generation of single-phase stick welding machines on the market. This new development has resulted in an impressive mix of outstanding welding results and increased range of functions. A digital resonance inverter also ensures a large number of stick electrode types can be used with perfect welding results. Thanks to their innovative PFC (Power Factor Correction) technology, the devices are very energy-efficient.

The TransPocket 150

A single-phase 180

The TransPocket is suitable for use in all areas of application.

The TransPocket’s current consumption now automatically adjusts to the sinusoidal grid voltage.

For more information and full article, please see http://www.fronius.com/cps/rde/xchg/SLD-40A9FE85-09ECC174/fronius_international/hs.xsl/79_20055_ENG_HTML.htm
The High School Welding Contest is made possible by the tremendous support of our welding suppliers and members. This is shown by their generous donation of time, resources, and gifts. We thank all of you who have contributed in the past and especially our host Washtenaw Community College.

The following suppliers made generous donations this year.

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<tr>
<th>Air Gas USA</th>
<th>Contractors Steel</th>
<th>Grossel Tool Co.</th>
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<td>Genesis Systems</td>
<td>Lube Power Inc.</td>
<td>Fronius USA</td>
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<td>COR-MET</td>
<td>Lincoln Electric Co</td>
<td>RE Automated Systems</td>
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<td>Obara USA</td>
<td>Miller Electric Co</td>
<td>Roy Smith Co.</td>
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<td>Praxair</td>
<td>Fusion Welding Solutions</td>
<td>Weld-Aid Products</td>
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<td>Robo Vent Products</td>
<td>Technical Welding Services</td>
<td>Hobart Brothers</td>
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<td>Crown Alloys Co.</td>
<td>ARO Welding Technologies</td>
<td>Eureka Welding Alloys</td>
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The following individuals had a direct impact on the contest:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wesley Doneth - Fronius USA</th>
<th>Glenn Kay II – Washtenaw Community College</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tim Hurley – Lincoln Electric</td>
<td>Glen Knight – AWS Past Chair</td>
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<td>Jeffry Hill – ARO Welding Technologies</td>
<td>Ray Roberts – GM – AWS Past Chair</td>
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<td>Jim Osborne – AWS Past Chair</td>
<td>Tom Sparschu – AWS Past Chair</td>
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<td>Don Maatz – AWS Past Chair</td>
<td>Bruce Kelly – AWS Past Chair</td>
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<td>Dan Wellman – Obara USA</td>
<td>Mark Rotary – AWS Past Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashley Webel – RE Automated Systems</td>
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High School Welding Contest! Results and Re-cap

Below are the top 5 winners, the school attended and the scholarship awarded to each. We had 10 schools participate and 34 contestants overall. The contest included multiple segments over a 6.5 hour period, which included: a welding knowledge written exam, an aluminum GTAW project, a cutting project and a pressure vessel which include the GMAW, SMAW and the FCAW welding processes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High School</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Scholarship Awarded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South &amp; West Washtenaw Consortium</td>
<td>Ian Schwenke, Matt Nyrkanen</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
<td>$2,500, $1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William D. Ford Career Technical Center</td>
<td>James Bedzyk</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flat Rock Community High School</td>
<td>Jared Lambrick</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oakland Schools Technical Campus Northeast</td>
<td>Christopher Flores</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Hello and welcome, Richard! Thank you for taking some time out of your schedule to interview with us! If you would, please tell us a little bit about yourself?

Thank you! My name is Richard Randall. Most everyone calls me “Rick.” I am a Welding teacher (TA – Teaching Assistant) Welding Instructor at William D. Ford, CTC.

That’s great, Rick. I believe you may be the first interviewee that specifically works in the high school career tech center. Would you be willing to share a little about what you like or dislike about your position?

I love working with the young people and helping them learn about welding. The only thing I’d say I dislike is the “pay” because I’m paid a TA’s pay.

Rick, please tell us, why did you join the AWS Detroit Section?

I joined the AWS Detroit Section because my welding instructor in high school got me interested. I attended some of the meetings and liked it very much!

Do you have a favorite AWS event?

Well, if I was still living in greater Cincinnati, I would have said the plant tour that we got to go on once a year. But, since being in the greater Detroit area, I would have to say that most of the meetings are very interesting and we get to go on tours at most of the meetings. Of all the AWS Sections that I have been a member of, I have to say I like the Detroit section the best! I joined the Central Michigan chapter back in 1986, then was a member at the Cincinnati section from 1990 until 2002. I let my membership lapse while attending college from 2002 to 2009. For some reason, I just never thought about becoming a student member all over again. I moved back to Michigan in 2009 and re-joined as a student member in 2009 while attending Ferris State University. I became active in the Detroit section when I became employed at William D. Ford, CTC.

That’s quite a history! So, outside of working with the students at the CTC, what kind of things do you like to do when you are not at work?

Well, I love music! I collect vinyl records, and have a pretty extensive collection of mostly rock’n’roll records from all over the world. I have imports from many different countries. I also enjoy going to rock concerts – as many as I can afford. Another hobby I enjoy is coin and token collecting. I enjoy grading and collecting coins.

Is there anything you consider near/dear to your heart?

What’s dearest to my heart is working with young people. I just enjoy working with the students. I feel I learn so much from them, and it’s really cool to see them learn things from me, as well. The thing is, I enjoy working with students of all ages, not just high school age students. I’ve learned so much from students most of my life.

That’s great! Let me ask you about mentoring. Have you had the chance to mentor others, or has there been anyone who has mentored you that you’d like to share some of that experience?

Wow, this is something that I have some history in as well. Back in the 1990’s, I established a mentoring program in my church. We paired young people with older adults. We had a program training and teaching students to become leaders in their churches and communities. We worked with them, teaching them public speaking, public song leading, and Bible reading among other life skills. This was one of the areas that I became involved in that lead me to thinking I would like to work with students for the rest of my life. At the time, I never thought that I would eventually become a teacher.

Excellent! We don’t always know what our experiences will prepare us for, but it seems your experience in mentoring led to a career choice, which has given you the opportunity to mentor others.

Rick, how did you get your start in welding?

Well, my start in welding began when I was in high school. I took a welding class and loved it. My welding teacher (Jeff Grossmen) was my favorite teacher while in high school. He had a huge impact on me, and as a matter of fact, he’s still teaching today after 42 years. He continues to work with young people teaching them welding skills. I attended Capital Area Career Center which is located in Mason, Michigan. I graduated from CACC in 1980.

As a welding instructor, what do you see as the biggest challenge facing the welding community and it’s future?

I think one of the biggest challenges in the welding trade is finding students that can see there are a lot of choices for careers in welding. They need to understand that it’s not just about running welds and jobs, or welding products and supplies. There are a very wide and diverse amount of choices in the welding field. Careers within welding include anything from welding engineers, to Certified Welding Inspectors, to people who study metals such as Metallurgists, to people who manage welders. Still, it’s a consistently changing industry that offers you many diverse paths to pursue future opportunities.

What would be your advice to someone who may be “on the fence” about getting into welding as a career?

I guess I would tell them that yes, it is a dirty job, and yes, it sometimes can be a dangerous career to pursue, but you receive good pay, steady work, and a career that offers many choices. It’s a career that offers you many different paths to the future.

Would you encourage more schools (both high school and junior high) to encourage more young people to look into technical schools and jobs and not just degreed positions?

Yes, I would. For many years (and, it’s still going on today), academic education has always looked at hands-on education as less important, and have used career tech as somewhat of a dumping ground for students that don’t achieve as well academically. The fact is, hands-on
Quiz the Experts!

The Detroit section is excited to state that we took the “Quiz the Experts” challenge and ran with it!

Our “QTE” team did an excellent job in representing the Detroit Section. Thank you, Gentlemen for your participation!

Meet Our Members (continued from page 9)

education is very important! To assume that a student cannot go on to higher education because he/she struggles in school is the wrong way to look at a situation. Personally, I believe we need more students that learn by using their hands to continue on to levels of higher education, so that we as educators may learn from them as well.

Ok, final question of our interview. If you weren’t involved in the welding industry, what would be your dream job?

I guess, for me, it would have to be a Rock ‘n’ Roll drummer, or maybe a radio disc-jockey.

Thank you, Rick, for spending some time with us and sharing some of your viewpoints and experiences. I think I can speak for our readers, it’s nice to have so many diverse backgrounds and careers involved in our section! It keeps our section interesting and alive with new ideas and visions!

If YOU’d like to be featured in our MEET our MEMBERS article, please contact Daniel Galiher via email at mailto:galiher.daniel@towerinternational.com.

2016/2017 Executive Committee Election Results

April 15, 2016

We would like to thank the 15 Detroit Section members who accepted nomination for the 2016/2017 Executive Committee election and those members who made the effort to vote for them. The AWS-Detroit Executive Committee consists of 25 voting and 12 non-voting members who enthusiastically donate their time to ensure more than 1,160 members of the Detroit Section have opportunities for networking and education. Their efforts and your participation and support will ensure the Detroit Section will build on its 92 year history of leadership in the American Welding Society.

We welcome any comments or suggestions you have to improve the online voting process and participation rate for next year. Please send an email to secretary@awsdetroit.org or contact the Section office.

The following members have been elected to the 2016/2017 Executive Committee by the Detroit Section membership:

Chair: Tyler Alexander
1st Vice Chair: Wesley Doneth
2nd Vice Chair: Mark Gugel
1st Assistant to the Chair: John Sutter
2nd Assistant to the Chair: Russ Webster
3rd Assistant to the Chair: Ashley Webel
Member-At-Large (alphabetical): Donnie Crist, Mark Harris, Robin Michon, Amanda Scherzer, Weijie Zhang

The AWS-Detroit Bylaws revision proposal was approved.
Co-op Welding Students, Summer Interns and Part-time Welders

Contact Pat Bell:
patricia.bell@detroit12.org
or (313) 282-8171 in Detroit

Obara USA has established itself as a premier supplier of high quality welding equipment and services. With our worldwide resources for equipment, research and development, and manufacturing, Obara USA can meet any project requirements, regardless of size or scope.

www.obarausa.com
We were looking at changing our steel source for several of the parts we produce. However, one of the new materials is not approved by the automotive OEM. What approval process are they talking about as the proposed replacement appears to be the same as our existing one?

“The process of joining two materials together is something that never really crosses your mind when you purchase a motor vehicle. In fact, it is almost something that is assumed since your driving of the final product is proof that it can be done. However, as with many things, a little digging reveals that there can be much more to this process than meets the eye. In fact, the idea behind trying to determine how weldable a material is begins to make real good sense once you understand what it entails and its potential impact on the assembly of the final product. In actuality, the determination of a material’s weldability is really a subset of a much broader characterization process that is employed by the automotive OEM to ensure that the material in question is suitable for the intended application. In other words, material characterization is really a methodology used to classify or describe a material that is based on an objective analysis of measurable characteristics.

While this discussion will eventually focus on weldability in subsequent columns, with the engagement of the right personnel, it could just as easily be a conversation about determining corrosion resistance, formability, or any of a dozen or more other manufacturing traits that need to be accounted for and addressed in order to successfully assemble the final product. An analogy for the process of material characterization is that of a building inspector. The building inspector works behind the scenes and their existence never really crosses your mind. But once you understand that they are looking at the structure before the drywall goes up to ensure that all of the other supporting elements of the building (electrical, plumbing, ventilation, network, etc.) are in place and functional, you begin to understand why their role is so important from the point of view of protecting the eventual final customer. The welding characterization process works in much the same way as it affords the automotive OEM an opportunity to verify if the material is truly capable of being processed in their manufacturing environment, thus protecting you, their customer, and helping to ensure that they have made, and you are purchasing, a quality product.

Characterization Methodology

The predominate method utilized by all of the automotive OEM manufacturers for welding characterization is resistance spot welding (RSW). For completeness, Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW), Arc Braze Welding (ABW) and Laser Beam Welding (LBW) are now also being considered or utilized for OEM characterization. Additionally, and as one would expect, each OEM typically wants the weldability characterization performed in a manner that is consistent with their processes and standards. As a result, the weldability characterization process is often performed on specific types of equipment and process parameters so as to replicate the unique manufacturing environment the material is to be used in. We will touch on some those elements in an upcoming column.”

If you have more questions about this topic, Don can be reached at:

R&E Engineering Services
A subsidiary of R&E Automated Systems, LLC
17500 23 Mile Road – Suite B, Macomb, MI 48044
(586) 228-1900 – Office
(734) 793-2304 – Direct
dmaatz@reautomated.com

References:
1) AWS D8.9:2012

2016 AWS Golf Outing
Save The Date
Click for e-mail notification

Monday
July 25th 2016

American Welding Society
Renaissance Center
Detroit, MI 48226
These are pictures from our last AWS Student Chapter Tour. We toured Matheson’s Welding Supply. We were educated in the filling and emptying of cylinders used in welding. Mr. Mendlik was our tour guide and he was very informative on his knowledge of the process used to empty and fill cylinders. The students were able to witness what liquid nitrogen does when poured onto various objects, and what it does when it is poured onto concrete. We had a total of 14 students in attendance. All students enjoyed the tour and were educated on welding gases and cylinders. Mr. Mendlik was very informative and gave us a very interesting tour.

Our group from left to right: Abdul Abed, Adam Guajardo, Nik Cadaret, Ryan Sherman, Wesley Pringle, Danny Thacker, Rick Laurence, Brennan Lindemann, Gerald Tator, Jake Longuski, Nikki Owens, Richard Randall, John Savage, Eric Cassidy, James Bedzyk, Chase Larsen, Tyler Braun.

Our group contently listening.

Mr. Mendlik giving us a demonstration in the pouring of liquid nitrogen and the affects it has on various objects such as a writing pencil, a roll of electrical tape, and what it does when poured onto concrete.

Our group from left to right: Abdul Abed, Adam Guajardo, Nik Cadaret, Ryan Sherman, Wesley Pringle, Danny Thacker, Rick Laurence, Brennan Lindemann, Gerald Tator, Jake Longuski, Nikki Owens, Richard Randall, John Savage, Eric Cassidy, James Bedzyk, Chase Larsen, Tyler Braun.
Schwenke Wins Gold Medal at SkillsUSA State Championship Conference!

April 8th, 2016: While most high school seniors were enjoying the final weekend of their spring break, Ian Schwenke began welding his Overall project. Schwenke qualified for the 44th Annual SkillsUSA Michigan Skills & Leadership Championship Conference by winning a Gold Medal at the 2W Regionals held at Washtenaw Community College on February 19th. Jan beat out fellow competitors in the Overall Welding Competition. This includes constructing a weldment from a blueprint and a stack of metal and welding it according the welding symbols. The project includes welds using welding processes such as: Gas Metal Arc Welding, Flux Core Arc Welding, Shielded Metal Arc Welding, & Gas Tungsten Arc Welding. There was also a project for Oxy-fuel Cutting.

Schwenke blew away the competition at the regional level and continued to hone his skills in preparation for the State Championships hosted at the Grand Rapids Community College M-TEC Tassel Center. After Friday’s tacking and FCAW portion, Schwenke continued welding his State project which also required him to use all the welding processes. Once completed, he had to complete a welding knowledge test and participate in a mock interview as part of the Overall contest.

Sunday, April 10th: Ian Schwenke was called to the stage and crowned the Overall Welding Champion for the State of Michigan. This means he will represent the State of Michigan at the National SkillsUSA Convention in June. This will be the second consecutive year that SWWC has sent an Overall Welder to the big show in Louisville, KY. Ian took second place last year to the National Champ and is now in the spotlight to claim his own title as the National Champion Overall Welder!

SWWC Welding & Fabrication Team Earns Silver Medal!

The SWWC Fab team competed Friday, April 8th at the SkillsUSA Michigan State Leadership and Skills Conference. The team was given a rough blue print about a month ago and practiced hard during their spring break to prepare for competition day. After a written skills test and 5 hours of welding, the team submitted their project, a fab table, to the judges. The guys, Hunter Carson of Manchester, Justin Walz of Manchester, and Connor Hilobuk of Dexter, were exhausted yet optimistic. They worked right down to the buzzer. On Sunday, at the awards ceremony, they were both excited and disappointed with their Silver Medals. This will help motivate them for gold next year!

continued on next page
Editor’s Notes

Congratulations! We’ve come to the end of another successful year with the AWS Detroit Section E-bulletin! This absolutely cannot be a possibility without the help of our members and dedicated volunteer executive committee. I’d like to give you all a big SHOUT OUT and THANK YOU! Also, a Thank you to our publisher, Dianne Macut.

Whether you’ve submitted a picture, a question, come to one of our events, or just taken the time to open the bulletin and scan through it, THANK YOU!

I think this has been a great season for the e-bulletin! We’ve had some really interesting interviews in the Meet our Members section, some great student participation as we’ve gotten to see more of what some of our student chapters are doing, and as always, some excellent questions and answer in our Ask the Welder column.

As we come to a close before the summer months, there’s a few things I would like to remind you of.

May is our last technical meeting until next September. So, if you still haven’t gotten out to a tech meeting, you have this one last opportunity to see what it’s all about. We welcome everyone, so no excuses!

If you haven’t had a chance to, check out the golf outing scheduled for July of this year. Andre Young does an excellent job of setting this up for us every year! Also, I know we haven’t hit summer yet, much less want to think about fall, but this October, AWS Detroit holds the Sheet Metal Welding Conference. It’s at a new venue this year, and the keynote speakers have been chosen, so you may want to start looking at those dates and the registration on the SMWC website.

We’ll be back in the fall, so enjoy your summer! Stop by our website once in a while to check out the pics from Ladies Night, the May technical night, along with the Golf Outing in July. Plus, it’s a great way to keep up with the coming events!

Until next season! Keep on Welding!

KEEP ON WELDING!

Robin

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Our Mission Statement

We, the member districts as the South and West Washtenaw Consortium, shall best educate students together in areas where individual districts cannot do as well alone. The Career and Technical Education component of the South and West Washtenaw Consortium empowers its students to be productive members of a changing technological world.

The students are provided with the knowledge necessary to achieve the requisite skills, positive attitudes and work habits to meet those goals.

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Bristle Take Bronze!

Bradley Bristle, a junior SWWC Welder from Manchester, took the Bronze Medal for Gas Metal Arc Welding at the 2016 SkillsUSA Michigan State Skills & Leadership Conference. This is Bristle’s first year in welding class at the South & West Washtenaw Consortium in Saline, MI.

Bristle placed 2nd at the SkillsUSA Regional Welding Competition at Washtenaw Community College back in February. This qualified him to compete in Grand Rapids at the State Championships.

Bristle worked hard every day during his spring break to prepare for this event and is excited to see his efforts pay off. He will now turn his efforts toward preparing for the upcoming Ferris State Welding Competition.

Brad Bristle - Manchester, MI - Bronze Medal - GMAW