

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear RWMA members:

Welcome to the year 2007 and the opportunities it offers for those who can take advantage of what the market will offer, even though it may appear to be a negative change. An exploratory meeting was held during the month of March this year that forces the RWMA to take market changes and morph them into a positive effect on the RWMA today and for years to come. These same market variables affect individuals and the firms they represent, as well as the RWMA and its presence in resistance welding and metal joining in general. The potential changes, for the RWMA, that are being reviewed should give all of those involved with RWMA an advantage in the marketplace. I can say this with strong confidence by just reflecting on the changes made by the RWMA a little less than two years ago that exceed one of the goals we set in terms of membership numbers. Of course, I cannot offer this carte blanche to all without the commitment of resources from those of the RWMA to design and implement the next level of change. This hard work will only produce a better outcome as the value of the sums can never exceed the whole – or simply stated, you get what you put into it. If you have the time and energy to participate, contact Susan Hopkins, RWMA Program Manager at (800) 443-9353, ext. 295 or susan@aws.org, to find out more. I look forward to hearing from and seeing each and every one of you over the coming year. Hopefully, I'll be seeing you soon at the upcoming Spring Meeting, being held in York, Pennsylvania, on May 16-18, 2007.

In closing, I would like to say that I am no different than everyone else in the RWMA: my time is the most precious asset I have and I expect the highest return when I invest it. PARTICIPATE FOR THE COMMON GOOD OF ALL, OR FOREVER HOLD YOUR PEACE.

Thank you.

Michael S. Simmons

RWMA Chair

RWMA SPRING MEETING

Join us in York, Pennsylvania, on May 16 – 18, 2007, for the RWMA Spring Meeting. You won't want to miss out on being involved in the Committee meetings and social events, as well as the networking opportunities with your colleagues.

The meeting will be held at the beautiful and historical Yorktowne Hotel. We have been able to secure a special group rate of \$99 per night. However, rooms are limited, so reservations will need to be made early. The meeting fee is \$300 for RWMA members and \$125 for spouse/guest. Non-RWMA members pay \$500 to attend the meeting. The meeting fee includes all of your meals while at the meeting, except for dinner on the 16th; however, that evening, RWMA will be hosting a Welcome Reception, which includes drinks and hot appetizers.



This year's Spring meeting will also include a tour of the Harley-Davidson Motor Company with a behind-the-scenes look at various manufacturing and assembly areas, watch as parts are formed, welded, machined and polished, and see freshly painted and chrome plated parts. Then it's on to the end of the line, where every motorcycle is roll-tested prior to crating and shipping. This tour was voted as the Number One Tour in *USA Today*.

RWMA is pleased to announce Mike Smeltzer, Executive Director of Manufacturers' Association of South Central Pennsylvania, will be our guest speaker on Thursday evening, May 17th. Mr. Smeltzer's presentation is titled, "Preparing Students for High-Quality Technical Careers in America." This will be an interactive discussion thus

exploring the challenges of getting the attention of students, parents and educators to consider technical careers, investing to provide students with the opportunity to understand the technology in today's manufacturing workplace.

To make your reservation to attend the Spring Meeting, as well as your reservations to stay at the Yorktowne Hotel, contact Susan Hopkins, RWMA Program Manager, at susan@aws.org or (800) 443-9353, ext. 295.

RWMA SCHOLARSHIP

If you would like to make a contribution to the RWMA Scholarship Fund, please make your checks payable to the AWS Foundation, and be sure to indicate that this money is to go directly to the **RWMA Scholarship Fund**. Checks can be mailed to: American Welding Society - Foundation, 550 NW LeJeune Road, Miami, Florida, 33126.

This scholarship was established in 2005 by the Resistance Welder Manufacturers' Association (RWMA) to perpetuate its legacy of support for welding education. The purpose for this scholarship is to provide financial assistance to those individuals who express an interest in the resistance welding process while pursuing a career in welding engineering.

RWMA "WORK IN PROGRESS"

J1 COMMITTEE: Invitations were sent out during the week of March 12th to prospective J1 Committee working group participants. Virtual meetings of the working groups will be held in April to advance the drafts of three proposed J1 Committee documents, which include:

1. Specification for Resistance Welding Controls.
2. Guide to Resistance Welding Machine Maintenance.
3. Resistance Welding Pocket Reference. If you are interested in participating in any of these work groups, please contact either Annette Alonso, Secretary of the J1 Committee, or David Beneteau, the J1 Chair, for additional information.

CCRW SUBCOMMITTEE ON CERTIFICATION OF RESISTANCE WELDING PERSONNEL: Currently there are 13 voting members who volunteered to work on this subcommittee. The Subcommittee will begin laying the foundation for this program shortly. Their next meeting will be held in conjunction with RWMA's Spring Meeting on May 16th from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

C1 COMMITTEE: Bill Brafford, Chair of the C1 Committee on Resistance Welding, reported that their next meeting will be held in Novi, Michigan, on April, 4th, at the Courtyard Detroit Novi, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

The topics to be addressed are:

1. Reaffirmation of C1.1 Recommended Practices for Resistance Welding
Items being reviewed are:
 - Add High strength steel data.
 - Modify some data for Austenitic steels.
 - Modify some data on mild steel.
 - Review data for stainless steel.
 - Metrification of this document.
2. C1.4 Specification for Resistance Welding of Carbon and Low-Alloy Steel
Resolve comments from last ballot.
3. C1.5 Specification for the Qualification of Resistance Welding Technician
Review minutes of CCRW group.
4. ISO/TC 44/SC 6
Report of recent ballots and meetings.

RWMA WELDING SCHOOL IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

You won't want to miss the next RWMA Welding School, being held on November 13-14, 2007, in Chicago, Illinois. This two-day resistance welding school is sponsored by the American Welding Society and the Resistance Welding Manufacturing Alliance, and is conducted by industry specialists with extensive resistance welding experience. The basics of resistance welding and real-life application of the process are covered. All participants may learn at their own pace, and can discuss specific welding concerns with the instructors. A must-see, hands-on demonstration will also be presented.

The registration fee includes a copy of the *Resistance Welding Manual*, Revised Fourth Edition (a \$125 value) and a course binder containing all instructor presentations, refreshments, and lunch on both days. Participants will also receive a certificate of completion with 14 Professional Educational Hours. In addition, there will be a tabletop reception following the first day of classes, demonstrating the latest resistance welding products offered by RWMA-member companies. Registration will be available online in late April 2007.

RWMA PUBLICATIONS



RWMA publications and bulletins can be purchased through World Engineering Xchange Ltd. (WEX). You can call them directly at 1-888-WELDING or e-mail your orders to orders@awspubs.com. You can also order them through the RWMA website at www.aws.org/rwma.

The February 2007 issue of the *Welding Journal* featured four articles on Resistance Welding. We are pleased that two of these articles were authored by RWMA Member companies. Roger Hirsch, President of Unitrol Electronics, Inc., authored "Making Resistance Spot Welding Safer," covering most areas of resistance welder safety. It appears to be the only article on this subject that has been published in many years. The article covers electrical and mechanical safety concerns for all types of spot welding machines.

Nigel Scotchmer, President of Huys Industries, authored "Reducing Resistance Welding Costs." This article reports that an organized approach to cost reduction begins with establishing objectives and checklists, which then lead to a detailed analysis for implementation.

If you would like to have copies of these articles, you can get them as a pdf files on the AWS website at www.aws.org.

RWMA MEMBER NEWS

JANDA COMPANY, INC., HIRES NEW DIRECTOR OF SALES

Janda Co., Inc., welcomes Rick Gainer as their new Director of Sales. Rick comes to Janda with 20 years of experience in the Metal Fabrication Industry. With a broad background in Process application sales, and a sincere commitment to customer service, Janda is confident that the addition of Rick to their team will allow them to better serve their customers' resistance welding needs.

Sheryl Dreiling
Janda Co., Inc.

ROMAN MANUFACTURING, INC., RE-CERTIFIED

RoMan Manufacturing, Inc., just received its re-certification for ISO-9001:2000 and received its first certification for ISO-14001. ISO-9001:2000 is a Quality Management System and ISO-14001 is an Environmental Management System. RoMan Manufacturing is proud to be both a leading U.S. manufacturer and also an environmentally friendly manufacturer.

Donald B. DeCorte
RoMan Manufacturing, Inc.

ROMAN ENGINEERING SERVICES ADDS ANOTHER OFFICE

RoMan Engineering Services will be opening a new RoMan "South" office in the Birmingham, Alabama, area. RoMan currently has two full-time welding engineers on staff working and living in the Birmingham area.

Donald B. DeCorte
RoMan Manufacturing, Inc.

FLEX-CABLE RE-CERTIFIED

Flex-Cable has been re-certified to ISO 9001:2000 with ASR registrars.

Holly Stevens
Flex-Cable

NEW REGIONAL SALES MANAGER FOR NGK METALS

NGK Metals is pleased to welcome John Gurtis as Regional Sales Manager. John has over 17 years in alloy development and application. He and his family reside in Southern California.

Patrick V. Brennan
NGK Metals Corp.

CMW MAKES SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENTS IN STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGY

CMW Inc. has made a significant investment in state-of-the-art CNC technology for high volume, resistance welding consumables production. CMW has also significantly expanded its capabilities to make Asian taper products and threaded electrodes. Together with its cold-forming capabilities, these new technologies greatly enhance CMW's ability to meet the varied needs of the resistance welding marketplace.

Bill Love
CMW Inc.

CMW CEO VISITS INDIA

Mark Gramelspacher, CMW Inc. President and CEO, recently returned from a trade mission to India. While there, he visited leading automotive manufacturers, appliance manufacturers, and powder metallurgy companies.

Bill Love
CMW Inc.

DID YOU KNOW?



In September 2008, the 5th International Advances in Resistance Welding Seminar is going to be held in Toronto, Canada. This will be the first time this seminar has been held outside of Europe. This seminar is the largest seminar in the world that concentrates solely on resistance welding. There is the perception in the marketplace today that many, if not most, of the advances in resistance welding come from Europe and the Far East. The intention of this seminar is to highlight North American advances, small and large, that affect materials, process, and control.

The previous seminars in Austria (2006) and Germany (2004) attracted approximately 70 welding engineers, designers and researchers from leading companies and institutes from around the world. 17 countries and 46 companies and institutes were represented. The last seminar highlighted welding dissimilar materials, and a number of innovative ideas and advances were presented.

At the 2008 conference we would like to present new and emerging improvements from North American companies to highlight what we are all trying to do to protect and grow North American manufacturing. While it is true the detailed agenda is controlled from Europe, there is a real opportunity for us in North America to promote our products on the world stage in 2008 with a little planning and effort. If your company, or companies that you know, has products and/or processes that represent improvements in resistance welding, please contact nscotchmer@huysindustries.com for more information.

RWMA 2007 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

HOT OFF THE PRESS! The 2007 RWMA Membership Directory has been published and sent to all our members. If you would like additional copies, please contact Susan Hopkins at susan@aws.org.

RWMA MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

The RWMA Membership Recruitment Subcommittee needs you. Holly Stevens, Chair of this subcommittee requests volunteers to form a work group to help come up with new ideas to continue the growth of membership. If you would be interested in assisting on this work group, please contact either Holly Stevens at holly.stevens@flexcable.com or 231-937-8000, or Susan Hopkins at susan@aws.org or 800-443,9353, ext. 295. The meetings would mainly be held via teleconference. RWMA needs you to help make a difference. Get involved.

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST RWMA MEMBERS

Mechelonic Welders Pvt., Ltd.'s specialization and focus are on products involving usage of spot welding, projection welding, seam welding and special purpose welders popularly used in the sheet metal user industries, of which the automotive sector is the main thrust area.

They undertake the complete designing, manufacturing and sales of Resistance Welding products and allied equipment in a state-of-the-art facility at Bangalore, India. Over the years, they have been recognized as a solution provider, including dedicated and commendable service support, spare parts, training and application support. Visit them at: www.mechelonic.com.

Gilbert Industrial, Inc., is a full service organization servicing the resistance welding needs of the industry with a particular emphasis on the aerospace, Mil-Spec and high quality requirements. They offer a full line of resistance welding machines and provide new, remanufactured, or retrofitted your existing equipment to meet their customers' needs. They also provide complete systems integration as well as design and manufacture new or existing equipment. Visit them at: www.gilbertindustrial.com.

2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<p>March 26 - 29, 2007</p> <p>WESTEC Exposition & Conference Los Angeles Convention Center Los Angeles, California www.sme.org</p>	<p>April 18 - 21, 2007</p> <p>NASCC: The Steel Conference Ernest N. Morial Convention Center New Orleans, Louisiana www.aisc.org</p>	<p>May 7 - 10, 2007</p> <p>AISTech (Iron and Steel Technology) Conference & Exposition Indianapolis, Indiana</p>	<p>May 16 - 18, 2007</p> <p>RWMA Spring Meeting The Yorktowne Hotel York, Pennsylvania</p> <p>More information visit www.aws.org/rwma</p>
<p>May 20 - 22, 2007</p> <p>GAWDA Spring Management Conference Phoenix, AZ Pointe South Mountain Resort www.gawda.org</p>	<p>May 22 - 24, 2007</p> <p>EASTEC 2007 West Springfield, MA Eastern States Exposition www.sme.org</p>	<p>May 28-31, 2007</p> <p>Schweissen & Schneiden - Russia Moscow, Russia www.messe-essen.de</p>	<p>June 19 - 21, 2007</p> <p>Western Manufacturing Technology Show Edmonton, Alberta, Canada</p>

RWMA MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the RWMA Committee of AWS is to advance resistance welding technology, broaden its use, and promote its economic benefits.

ANYTHING TO ADD?

If you have news for us, we'd be glad to print it. Send a copy of the information in electronic format to susan@aws.org, and we'll make sure it gets in the next issue.

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