



News

1900 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-1498
Phone: (215) 564-3484
Fax: (215) 564-2175
E-mail: rwma@fernley.com
Internet: www.rwma.org

Joining together to promote resistance welding excellence

Winter 2001

President's Perspective

Another successful RWMA Annual Meeting is now behind us and we are certainly faced with a lot of challenges going into the new year. Not the least of these challenges is implementation of the RWMA Restructuring Plan that was approved by the Board of Directors in Indian Wells. While a lot of discussion about the plan has focused on the significant structural changes to the organization, it is important that we do not limit our expectations and efforts to achieving this end result.

The shift from standing committees to project focused work groups and the formation of new Committee structures will take considerable effort, time and some amount of patience. It is certainly important to work towards making the RWMA more accessible and more focused on the future. However, since we are experiencing turbulent economic times, it is also important that our Members spend time attending to their own business issues. The risk then, is that one of these critical issues will lose out when it comes to resource allocation. The best solution would be to find a way to address both the RWMA and our Members' needs at the same time.

Everyone is faced with having to find ways to increase their efficiency in order to survive and prosper. The Reorganization Plan is also aimed at helping you leverage your efforts, so you can achieve your objectives. Do you have ideas to help make a difference for your Customer's but, lack the resources or expertise to bring them to

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RWMA Fall Welding School Dampened By Events Of September 11th

The RWMA recently completed another Emmet A. Craig Resistance Welding School at The Renaissance WorldGate Hotel in Kissimmee, Florida, September 11-12, 2001. Once again, student evaluations prove that the Welding School is a very beneficial program for all those who attend as the results were very positive. In addition to thanking all who attended, the RWMA would like to send out a special thank you to all of the table top exhibitors at the Welding School. Thank you to **Centerline (Windsor) Ltd., CMW, Inc., Peer Division, A DT Industries Company, Resistance Welding Products (1987) Ltd., RoMan Manufacturing, Inc., and Stillwater Technologies, Inc.**

The RWMA Welding School had just begun when word of the tragedies reached us. The class continued as normal, except that everyone wanted the latest information whenever there was a break. Students, Instructors, Exhibitors and

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RWMA Events Schedule 2002

March 4-7, 2002
AWS Show
Chicago, Illinois

March 12-13, 2002
Spring Welding School
Cleveland, Ohio

April 24-26, 2002
RWMA Spring Meeting
Big Rapids, Michigan

May 14-17, 2002
AWS - Detroit Sheet Metal Welding Conference X
Detroit, Michigan

September 18-19, 2002
Fall Welding School
Chicago, Illinois

October 23-26, 2002
RWMA Annual Meeting
Duck Key, Florida

October 29-31, 2002
FABTECH Show
Cleveland, Ohio

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RWMA Shines in Palm Springs!

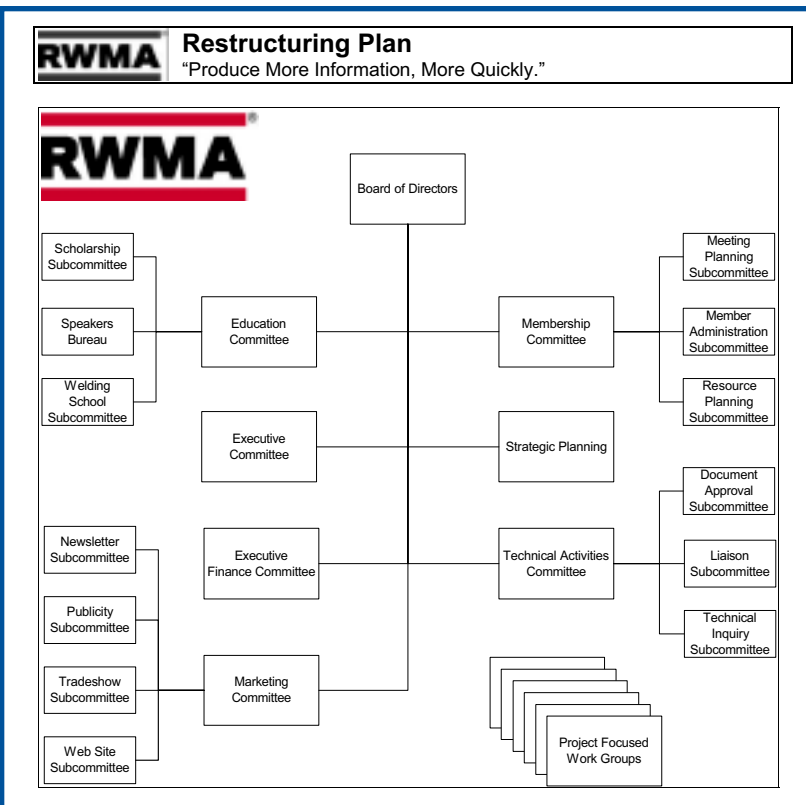
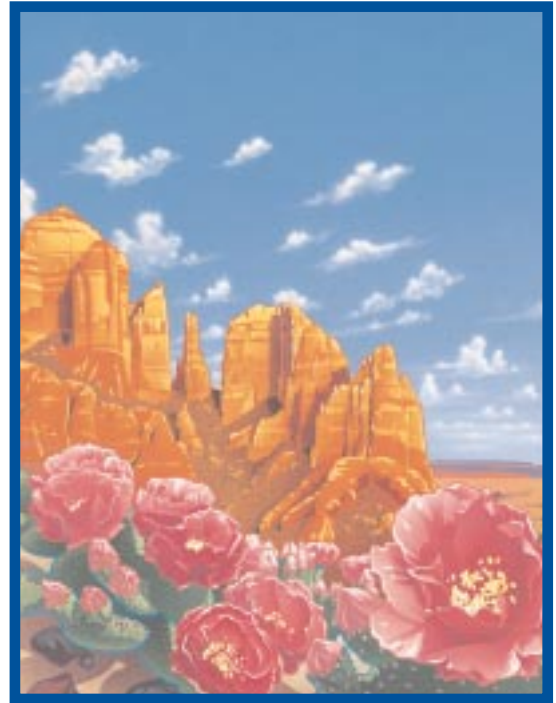
Change was in the clear blue sky of Palm Springs, California during the 2001 Resistance Welder Manufacturers' Association (RWMA) Annual Meeting. The entire Annual Convention was focused on the changes to future meeting schedules and the committee organizational structure.

The Board of Directors approved the Strategic Planning Committee's recommendation for reorganizing the committee structure and meeting schedules. Many of the technical committees met for the last time.

One major change, which effects nearly half the RWMA membership was also approved by the Board of Directors. The new bylaw amendment allows Associate Members to have the same privileges as Regular Members, which include the right to vote, to serve as committee chairs and to serve on the Board of Directors. The one distinction is Associate Members cannot be officers of the Association.

There was a change in leadership roles during the Full Member Meeting. Outgoing Board Chair Pat Adams literally and figuratively passed the gavel to incoming President David Beneteau and Board Chair Bill Brafford. Pat Adams was warmly received as she thanked everyone for their friendship and looked forward to new roles within the organization.

The Miramonte Resort was a gorgeous location for the meeting, October 25-27, 2001. All the delegates and guests enjoyed the warm weather, a beautiful sunset and good company during the Welcome Reception in the Olive Garden.



All of the committee and subcommittee meetings were extremely productive. Each reviewed how the new strategic direction will effect the committee. The committees made recommendations on projects new task focused work groups should complete.

On Friday night, Glen Brodowsky from California State University, San Marcos spoke to the delegates after dinner on the topic of Repositioning Products and Services in a Changing Market Place or - You CAN Teach an Old Technology New Tricks.

The highlight of Friday night was our thank you to Bill and Chris Brafford at the closing dinner. Pat Adams toasted Bill for his guidance, dedication and foresight, which has provided to the Association through his years an officer and as President. Pat thanked Chris for allowing RWMA to have so much of Bill's time. RWMA presented Bill will a plaque and a global positioning system as a small token of appreciation for his term as RWMA President.

At the meeting, we welcomed first time attendees Joe Daumeyer (Resistance Welding Equipment &

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Presidents Perspective *(continued from page 1)*

reality? Can you use industry consensus or peer review to help you sell an idea, or reduce your liability exposure? Do you have experienced people who could use a challenge and benefit from the experience of working on a project with their industry peers? Do you have ideas for RWMA projects that will help make your customers more prosperous? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, we would love to hear your ideas.

The Membership Committee is preparing to send out a Resource Planning survey to establish a database of Member and Associate Member company resources. If you have an employee that can help out with one specific project or many, please make sure they are included.

For those of you who may not have seen the six page summary of the Reorganization Plan, please contact Staff for a copy. Implementation of the Restructuring Plan will be a task as big as anything that we have ever tried before. With your support, I am confident that we will succeed in 2002.



David Beneteau

RWMA Fall Welding School Dampened By Events Of September 11th

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Staff waited hopefully for the airports to reopen. By Thursday, everyone who had not planned to stay for the weekend, carpoled up and headed for home. For us, RWMA Welding School will be the *where we were* on the morning of September 11th.

The events of September 11th still resonate with each of us and will remain in our psyche for months and years to come. Sadly, several RWMA members were personally affected by the outrageous actions, which took place in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania just three months ago. Our hearts and prayers go out to them. For the rest of us, the images of the attacks remain and have made us stronger.

Plans are currently underway to make the next school even better! The RWMA Spring Welding School will head back to Cleveland, Ohio at the Cleveland Airport Marriott from March 12-13, 2002. Promotional brochures will be available by early January with major promotion beginning in late January. If you would like to start distributing brochures to your customers and colleagues, feel free to contact RWMA Headquarters at (215) 564-3484 or send an e-mail to rwma@fernley.com.

Thank you for your continued support of this valuable program!

RWMA Welcomes New Staff!

We would like to welcome Robin Walker, the Meeting Manager for RWMA. Robin is a recent graduate of Temple University, where she received her BA in Communications. Many of you may have had the opportunity to meet Robin at FABTECH. She looks forward to working with the RWMA!

RWMA Welcomes New Officers and Board of Directors

The Resistance Welder Manufacturers' Association (RWMA) is proud to announce 2002 Officers and Board of Directors. These elections were held at the recent RWMA Annual Meeting in Indian Wells, California. The Officers and Board of Directors for 2002-2003 are:

Chairman	Bill Brafford <i>CMW, Inc.; Indianapolis, Indiana</i>
President	David Beneteau <i>CenterLine Special Machinery; Windsor, Ontario</i>
First Vice President	Larry E. Moss <i>Automation International; Danville, Illinois</i>
Second Vice President	Michael Simmons <i>Tuffaloy Products, Inc., Greer, South Carolina</i>
Machinery Division Representative:	Sean Patton <i>Icesa/Modicon; Tlalnepantla, Mexico</i>
Machinery Division Alternate:	Brian Tobin <i>RWC, Inc.; Bay City, Michigan</i>
Electrode Division Representative:	Howard Johnston <i>CMW, Inc.</i>
Electrode Division Alternate:	Priyesh Dodhia <i>Tuffaloy Products, Inc.; Greer, South Carolina</i>
Component Division Representative:	J. J. Johnson <i>Schrieber Engineering; Cerritos, California</i>
Component Division Alternate:	Ray Shook <i>Stillwater Technologies, Inc.; Troy, Ohio</i>

RWMA Shines in Palm Springs (continued from page 2)

Supply Company), Rosann Wolfbauer (American Machinery Specialties Inc.) and Jack Smith (Cybersmith Engineering) and said good-bye to Jessinia Austin, who worked for RWMA Headquarters and has helped plan the past two meetings.

RWMA will be returning to the Miramonte Resort in October 2003 for the Annual Meeting.

Save the Date

Please mark your calendars for April 24-26, 2002 for the RWMA Spring Meeting in Big Rapids, Michigan. We will be visiting Ferris State University.

Annual Meeting 2001



Pat Adams thanks Bill and Chris Brafford for their contributions to RWMA during Bill's term as RWMA President.



Bill Brafford thanks the RWMA membership for supporting his efforts as President from 1999-2001.

RWMA



Speaker Glen Brodowsky of California State University of San Marcos gives his presentation on marketing during the Friday Night Dinner.



Management Liaison Sue Pine, enjoys dinner with the new RWMA 2nd Vice President, Mike Simmons, and his wife Kathy.

Annual Meeting 2001



Membership Chair, Bob Roth, gives his presentation during the Full Member Meeting.



President Bill Brafford congratulates Joe Seme, Sementorq Inc., on becoming a Regular Member, Machinery.

Resistance Welder Manufacturers'



President Bill Brafford welcomes first time attendees, Jack Smith - Cybersmith Engineering, Rosann Wolfbauer - American Machinery Specialties, and Joe Daumeyer - Resistance Welding Equipment Supply Company.

Patent News

The following list includes a number of patents recently issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office that may be of interest to the membership of the RWMA. These patents have been identified by a general search of approximately 3,500 patents issued per week by the USPTO. This listing is for general information and is not intended to be an endorsement of the patentability of the claimed invention. Additional information on any of these patents, or a complete list of US patents is available via the USPTO website at: www.uspto.gov.

- US6294750B1 (9/25/2001): METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATICALLY ADJUSTING AIR PRESSURE IN A PNEUMATIC WELD HEAD - Unitek Miyachi Corp.
- US6294751B1 (9/25/2001): METHOD OF ELECTRICALLY WELDING A PART SUCH AS A SCREW OR A BOLT ONTO A BORE IN A COMPOSITE METAL SHEET - ARO
- US6294752B1 (9/25/2001): METHOD OF FLASH BUTT WELDING
- US6294753B1 (9/25/2001): RESISTANCE WELDING MACHINE CONTROL METHOD - Matsushita Electric Industrial Co.
- US6297467B1 (10/2/2001): TRANSDUCER BUILT INTO AN ELECTRODE DaimlerChrysler Corp
- US6298977B1 (10/9/2001): METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING PARTS TO WORKPIECES
- US6303893 (10/16/2001): RESISTANCE PROJECTION WELDER AND METHOD THEREFOR - Perks MFG Engineering Company
- US6303894 (10/16/2001): RESISTANCE WELDING WITH AN ELECTROCHEMICAL CAPACITOR AS THE CURRENT POWER SOURCE - Rafael-Armament Development Authority Ltd.
- US6313427B1 (11/6/2001): WELDING GUN AND METHODS CONDUCTED USING THE SAME - Toyota Jidosha Kabushiki Kaisha

FABTECH Attendance Hurt by Slow Economy

The RWMA recently attended the FABTECH International Tradeshow, at the McCormick Center in Chicago, Illinois. Although the attendance was lower than expected, the RWMA member companies made the very best of the situation.

We would like to send out a special thank you to all of the volunteers, who helped staff the RWMA booth. Thank you to Joe Daumayer - Resistance Welding Equipment & Supply Company, Bob Hosa, Chris Vola, and Allen Agin - Taylor Winfield Corporation, Bruce Kelly - General Motors Corporation, Sandy Lee - RWC, Inc., Kurt Hofman and Don Decorte - RoMan Manufacturing, Inc., and Roger Hirsch and Ron Leibovitz - Unitrol Electronics, Inc.

The RWMA will again be exhibiting at the FABTECH International Tradeshow in Cleveland Ohio. The show will be from October 29 - 31, 2002. Information will be available in the New Year. If you like to lend RWMA a hand, feel free to contact Headquarters at (215) 564-3484.

AWS Update

At the 2002 AWS Welding Show/MAX International in March, there will be a special reserved area for the Resistance Welding Pavilion front and center in the McCormick Place Hall!

The Beijing Essen Welding 2002 Show will be held on November 5-8, 2002 at the Beijing Exhibition Centre in Beijing, P.R. China.

The WeldMex Expo will be held on January 28-30, 2003 in Mexico City, Mexico.



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Dave Beneteau	President
Larry Moss	First Vice President
Michael Simmons	Second Vice President
Bill Brafford	Chairman
Joshua L. Waldorf	Executive Director
Julianne Squiccimara	Director of Meetings & Communications
Robin Walker	Meeting Manager
Suzanne C. Pine	Management Liaison

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